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5 April 1984

## **Southeast Asia Report**

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5 April 1984

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BURMA

REASONS FOR BURMESE OFFENSIVE: NE WIN MARRIAGE NOTED

Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai 16 Feb 84 pp 33, 34

[Article: "The Situation in Burma: The Karen Rebels and Ne Win's Situation"]

[Text] Even though events in Burma have not held much interest for those following the situation in this region since the attempted assassination of South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan concluded with the investigation of the bombing and with Burma severing diplomatic relations with North Korea and giving death sentences to the people who planted the bomb, LAK THAI has not reduced its coverage of events there.

Many observers wonder whether the position of Ne Win, the "old tiger of Burma," is still as secure as it was. This is a question that is still being asked by observers today. The suppression operation launched against the Karen separatists in the middle of January has caught the attention of many observers.

A diplomatic news source talked with LAK THAI about the events in Burma, particularly the operation aimed at suppressing the separatist rebels led by General Bo Mya. He said that "actually, this is the dry season, which is when Burma always launches an operation against the Karens. But this time, the operation seems to be stronger. They have destroyed [the Karens'] main base at Ban Mae Towo. And other camps to the north are in trouble, too." The news source added that besides launching the dry-season operation, which is normal for the Burmese government, it is thought that this is an attempt to "save face" after the Karen liberation forces gained worldwide attention in December by seizing two French engineers--a husband and wife team--who had gone there to help build a cement plant. "Burma lost much 'face.' They had long been planing to attack the camp at Ban Mae Towo. In this suppression operation, they are using a division-sized force. And they are using artillery to open the way for them." The news source also said that Burma will probably not be able to keep its forces there too long because of the logistics problems in the coming period. But it will take the Karen rebels a long time to recover.

Thai officials have been interested in this operation to suppress the Karen rebels and have followed things continuously. The events in Burma, particularly the position of General Ne Win, the chairman of the Burma Socialist Program Party and the former president, cannot be ignored. Western observers have pointed out that Burma took direct retaliation against North Korea, which was behind the attempted assassination of President Chun Doo Hwan. There was no attempt to "be considerate" or maintain a policy of strict "neutrality" as was done in the past. At first it was thought that Burma might have to change course and have dealings with the Western world and implement a policy of opening up the country more. But things have not turned out that way. And there has not been any deterioration in Burma's relations with the Soviet Union, which is known to be a supporter, along with China, of North Korea. "Burma has dealt with this matter as it has with other things. It has tried to keep this from growing bigger and from involving other things," said the diplomatic news source. As for its foreign policy, Burma continues to maintain a position of neutrality and independence in accord with the policy implemented by General Ne Win from the time of the 1962 coup d'etat to when he retired from the position of president in 1980.

A person who has analyzed events in Burma pointed out that Burma did not decide to sever political relations with North Korea just to preserve Burma's image. It was also meant to remind people that the person who really controls the administrative apparatus and foreign policy of Burma is General Ne Win, the old tiger who still serves as the chairman of the Burma Socialist Program Party, even though he is no longer the president.

This news source said that General Ne Win, who is now 72 years old, is still in good physical health. He has been married five times. His present wife is less than 30 years old. And after the bombing in Burma last October, Ne Win hinted to a close associate that he will probably continue to involve himself in politics at least 7 or 8 more years. Also, he has maintained his control over the government and military apparatus by eliminating the "rising stars" in political and military circles. The most recent case was when he ordered the prosecution of General Tin U, who was one of the top three people after President San Yu. Tin U was charged with "corruption." Observers have pointed out that Ne Win has used this same charge to prosecute at least five military leaders who seemed to be gaining too much power and prestige during the 20 years that he has held power in Rangoon. His socialist policies, his Buddhist beliefs and his nationalist policies are the key things in putting Burma on the path to socialism--his version of socialism.

But the economic problems will be major problems for Burma. The news source said that all the ministries and departments that administer Burma today are controlled by military officers, with the single exception of one relatively unimportant ministry. And almost all these officers or retired officers are followers of Ne Win. General San Yu, the present



president of Burma, is an army officer, too. The anxiety about Burma's economic future is not something that is recognized only by those who control Burma's apparatus.

Countries that have donated money and given aid to help develop Burma's economy have pointed out that present economic arrangements have not achieved results. Burma has not been able to maintain a constant level of economic growth. The slowdown began in 1975 and has continued to the present time. The world situation has been terrible and so the economic situation in Burma has grown even worse. Prices of export products and goods that earn revenues for the country, particularly rice, are presently very low on world markets. Economists with the International Monetary Fund, or IMF, which is an important fund that works in conjunction with the World Bank, have clearly said that if Burma's export situation does not improve soon, the measures for giving aid money and credit will definitely have to be revised in the future.

And that is not all. Burma's production of crude oil, which was thought to be an important natural resource, has not expanded either. In 1979, Burma produced 32,000 barrels of crude oil a day. But at present, it is producing only 20,000 barrels a day. The important reason for this is that no new surveys have been made, no new wells have been dug and the old sources have not been expanded or developed to enable them to increase production power. If this situation continues, it is thought that Burma will have to import oil for domestic use even though it has large reserves of crude oil.

But Burmese leaders are afraid of "aid" from other countries, regardless of whether it comes from the socialist camp, which includes China and the Soviet Union, or from the Free World camp, in which Japan, West Germany and the United States are presently the leaders. And important financial institutions, that is, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) are the ones that are applying pressure. Burma is still afraid of foreign aid, fearing that this will lead to exploitation of its natural resources.

The population of Burma now stands at 38 million. It is classified as one of the poorest countries even though it is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of the natural resources that it has. As long as the socialist path in Burma remains unchanged, it will be difficult to hit the economic development targets and raise the standard of living of the Burmese people. And the trouble caused by the minority groups is another problem that Burma has not been able to solve.

But this does not mean that General Ne Win will lose his control over Burma. It's just that in the future, he will have to be more careful and satisfy more of the needs of the people than at present.

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KAREN INSURGENT PHILOSOPHIES DISCUSSED

Bangkok ATHIT KHLET LAP in Thai 11-17 Feb 84 pp 19-22

[Article: "One Just For the Burmese and One Just For the Karens, a Mistaken View of the Free Karens"]

[Text] Saw Baoyi, the first Karen leader, made a mistake in his struggle for Karen independence. His picture can be found in the houses of almost all "Khotule" Karen villagers and in their hospitals and military headquarters. But concerning the legend of Saw Baoyi, who had the Karens side with the English forces to put pressure on the Burmese government at a time when England was expanding its influence to take control of Burma, what the Karen soldiers did actually benefited the English.

But following Saw Baoyi's victory, the "longed for independence" slipped through their hands. The Burmese, who had bowed to the English, seized this Karen leader and drowned him in the Salween River. But their past history was left to embolden the young Karens once again, and it became possible to proclaim that several hundred square kilometers of land in eastern and southeastern Burma form the country of "Khotule" with the present leader being General Bo Mya.

The Mistake of Bo Mya

General Bo Mya is more a "fighter" than a "politician." The faith that the Karens have in him comes from his "bloody style of fighting." Among young people, he is famous for using just one bullet to defeat seven Burmese soldiers singlehandedly. His military power grew to the point where he was able to dismiss Man Basan, an aged political scientist, from his position by observing that Man Basan's thinking was leaning toward socialism.

But today, even though he is now 60 years old, he is still able to go and fight side by side with his troops.

During a 1983 interview with reporters from Bangkok, one of the reporters asked him: "Even though you have built up your influence and can protect the Khotule area, at present, the fighting is intensifying and modern

weapons are being used. Has it ever occurred to you that if things continue like this, the forces of the Union of Burma, which has gained recognition worldwide, will eventually crush you?"

Bo Mya replied that "I am not worried. I have known this all my life. I will continue fighting. If they send in large numbers of troops, many of them will die. If few come, few will die. We don't think that god will side with the Burmese."

While Bo Mya has placed his faith in several things such as god, war and protecting the area, the thing that they all desire, that is, a "Republic of Kothule," has not become a reality, and development has been slow.

The things that the Karens have constantly developed include very modern communications equipment. They have increased the number of weapons and the amount of ammunition. Except for this, development has been very slow.

Many Karen youths who have received rigorous military training have been sent to study at good schools such as Christian schools in Bangkok and even to foreign universities. But they may not be able to make full use of the things learned at these schools with Bo Mya's strong faith in preserving the area, god and war.

#### Preserving the Area

According to the Karens, the only thing they want is a "Kothule state"; they don't want a "Burmese revolution." This is different from the White Flag Burmese Communist Party, which has constantly increased in size. Even though Thakin Ba Thein Tin, the chairman of the Burmese Communist Party (BCP), surrendered in 1981, this did not weaken the BCP at all. The BCP has expanded the area (under its control) and expanded its influence. And it has expanded its united front to include various minority groups. It has negotiated with these groups and made concessions in exchange for routes and areas having both defensive and offensive importance.

Because the strategy of the Karens has stressed defending the area, without their having any offensive strategy, to date, the war between the Burmese and the Karens has been a war in which the Burmese have launched attacks and the Karens have defended themselves. Even though the Karens have attacked Burmese forces many times, these have just been attacks on Burmese military camps in the areas where the Karens want influence, or in the area where the Karens want to establish a "Republic of Kothule."

Concerning such important bases as the Mae Towo base along the banks of the Moei River opposite Ban Mae Towo in Tak Province and the base opposite Ban Mae Tan, the Karens used to believe that these bases were

impregnable. They had confidence in the ability of their mountain bases to protect them from artillery and thought that the hazardous trails would halt the attack units of the Burmese forces. But in 1981 the Mae Towo base was attacked by Kha troops and Burmese commandos. These troops were repelled. However, just recently, at the end of January, at the Mae Towo base, which is so close to the Thai border that people can shout to each other and which serves as a transport point for consumer goods and a border crossing point from Mae Towo north to the combat headquarters at Khothule, the flag of the Burmese government flew from the flagpole. This was a major defeat [for the Karens], and it may result in a change in military strategy between the Burmese and the Karens.

It has been this belief in preparing a "combat front" to "defend and protect the area" that has made it necessary for the Karens to fight so often that they have not had time to develop other things in the Khothule area, which they hope will become a separate country.

#### A God That Blocks Development?

In Khothule, even though a few people are adherents of Buddhism and even though there are a few wats, such as at Khomura, almost 90 percent of the Karens are firm Christians.

The Karens first developed a belief in "god" during the time of English influence when the English raised the status of the Karens on the educational, combat tactics and medical fronts.

Concerning this belief in god, Bo Mya once told Field Marshal Praphat Charusathien that "I don't know anything about democracy or communism; I know only god."

With their faith in god, Westerners felt that they had done a service to the Karens in the past. This resulted in Bo Mya becoming somewhat dissatisfied with certain important officers and ministers who had gone to study in Peking during the time of Man Basan. He withdrew a large number of troops who shared this view and followed things closely. However, those people did not expand the conflict with Bo Mya. Their discipline and the war, in which almost every Karen was involved, caused the Karens to gladly entrust the power to make decisions to a "war hero" such as Bo Mya.

Concerning those among the Karens with socialist views or with views different from Bo Mya, even though they do not express these views, they feel that the Karens should cooperate or engage in activities of mutual benefit with "all sides" that oppose the government of President Ne Win regardless of whether it is the Shan State group or the White Flag BCP. In the Karens' struggle to protect their area, the state of Khothule will become a reality only after the government of General

Ne Win is destroyed. It isn't correct to proclaim [the formation of] the country at a time when the Ne Win government can still use its position to gain influence throughout the country as at present.

Many younger people favor the idea of "finding a way to the sea" and gradually expanding the influence of the Karens from the northern part of Thailand to the west. Besides this, in the Karens' present administrative system, even though their system is based on a belief in god, in forming both large and small organizations in this area, in conscripting soldiers and in rationing food and medicine, it can be said that they use socialist methods in many cases.

Recently, signs of conflict between the younger people who want to build a nation and Bo Mya, who places his faith in god, began to appear when the southern Karen battalion, which is stationed along the western border of Thailand, or the unit that is driving toward the sea, did things that were not in accord with the orders of General Bo Mya.

These conflicts have occurred along with reports that members of the Chinese Communist Party have been sent into the area and that they may have been sent just because of these conflicts. This has resulted in the Thais quickly sending in strong forces to hold the area along the Tanaosi mountain range. Besides this, thahan phran irregulars have been stationed in the Thai-Burmese border areas where there are Karens.

In Mae Towo and Mae Tan in Tak Province, thahan phran irregulars have been sent to gather information about the Karens along the Moei River in Prachuap Khiri Khan Province. Thirty Karens were seized inside Burma and turned over to the Thai military forces in that area. After they were interrogated, they were released.

The young Karens have created problems for Bo Mya, particularly concerning the Thai "policy." But concerning the policy that the Karens have used with certain Thai officials for tens of years, even older, or battle-scarred veterans, admit that this policy is ineffective.

Important warlords such as Bo Mya, Colonel Gladstone and Colonel Marvell went to Phathaya with Mr Lester Wolff, a U.S. congressman, in 1979 in order to ask [the United States] to exert pressure and recognize the "Karen declaration of independence." They also volunteered to "suppress the opium" in the Golden Triangle in order to stop [the United States] from giving helicopters to the Ne Win government for opium suppression purposes, which the Burmese then used in the war against the Karens. But this effort failed.

Bo Mya once said that the "United States, the Soviet Union and China are all the same. They are not interested in the nationalism of minority groups like us. What they are interested in is the Ne Win government and what they will gain. They are more interested in that than they are in giving justice to the Karens."

But the younger people may not think like that. Some believe that the conflict between the great powers in this region will benefit them since they are still free in the western part of Thailand. Some young Karens have again begun talking with the BCP, which has begun playing a role in this area. These people are different from Bo Mya, who denies everything.

#### An Old-Fashioned War

Burma has stationed a division of troops in the coastal area of Burma opposite Ranong Province in southern Thailand in order to block and thwart the military and political aims of the Karens, who "want to find a way to the sea." At the same time, they are attacking strategic points such as the military bases opposite Tak Province and small bases opposite Chiang Mai Province.

The main lifeline of the Karens is actually the "tax collection checkpoint at Wang Kha." The 5 percent income that the Karens earn from the tax on goods that cross the border is approximately 800 million baht a year. These goods include such things as cloth, uniforms, slippers, toothpaste, seasoning powder and cigarettes. These goods are distributed from the Wang Kha checkpoint to the black markets in Rangoon. And some are even sent to Bangladesh and Pakistan.

The Wang Kha checkpoint has been hit many times by Burmese artillery. The Wang Kha market was once totally destroyed when it was hit by an artillery shell. But it was rebuilt very quickly since it is a source of profits for merchants. And this is still the area of influence of the Karens.

But the strong military pressure applied by the forces of the Burmese government against almost all their important camps since the end of 1983 and the "foreign policy" implemented by the Burmese government will make it possible for Burma to launch a strong and decisive attack later on. Wang Kha is becoming unsafe.

The Burmese government has received much attention from the great powers and ASEAN since the outbreak of war in Kampuchea. The Burmese government has played a prominent role as the "middleman in solving the Indochina problem." The political effect of this has resulted in the Burmese government taking much stronger suppression measures against those referred to as "rebels," just as the Thai government "went on the offensive" against the Communist Party of Thailand after Kampuchea split apart. In some areas, the policy of Thai officials toward the Karens has changed. The Karen prime minister once asked: "Is there any chance of Thailand becoming a socialist country that will implement a military strategy in suppressing the Karens that will "sandwich" the Karens?"

It doesn't look as if the military strength and combat prowess will help improve the strategic position of the Karen forces. Their political



policy, the search for allies and the negotiations with various sides are becoming much more important than fighting.

It's interesting that in the coming period General Bo Mya may have to stop saying that while area belongs to Burma, another area belongs to the Karens. Instead, he may have to admit that if he does not form an alliance with the other groups in order to seize control of Rangoon, the Chriatian area known as the State of Khothule will never be liberated or become a truly independent country.

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## EDITORIAL CRITICIZES U. S. WITHDRAWAL FROM UNESCO

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 3 Jan 84 p 6

[Text] The United States has decided to leave UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. The reason given is that it does not agree with the political directions of UNESCO, which is accused of being anti-freedom, including freedom of the press, particularly in its efforts to set up a new world information and communications system.

The dissatisfaction of the U. S. with UNESCO is not a recent development. A few years ago it tried but failed to enforce its will on UNESCO by temporarily suspending payment of its annual contribution, which indeed plays an important role in the budget of the world organization. This effort failed because other UNESCO members, particularly the countries in OPEC [Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries], directly increased their financial contributions to make up for the suspension of the U. S. payment.

The U. S. decision to leave UNESCO completely at this time is undoubtedly even more foolish [bodoh]. It turns out that, although there are some countries which regret the departure of the U. S., not one of the almost 160 countries that are members of UNESCO support it or praise this action. The decision to leave the organization only makes it clear that America itself has political objectives with regard to UNESCO, and this characteristic of attempting to use force in an imperialistic and undemocratic way makes it increasingly clear that the United States is indeed opposed to a new world information order and that it opposes the renewal process aimed at a more just world.

In fact, the withdrawal of a member like this will be no loss to UNESCO. Indeed, the noble objectives of UNESCO may be achieved more easily and quickly in the absence of this large tumor. The overwhelming majority of the world clearly continues to support UNESCO and its constructive activities at present.

Regarding the financial aspect in particular, it is now time to prove clearly and explicitly that even without American money UNESCO and other world organizations can function, as was once proved in the past. If necessary, savings can be made and organizational and operational reforms can be adopted without reducing—on the contrary, by emphasizing—its principal mission: the formation of a new world information and communications order as soon as possible.

**TIMOR WAR EASES AS RAINS SET IN**

Port Moresby PAPUA NEW GUINEA POST COURIER in English 2 Mar 84 p 3

[Text] JAKARTA: Fighting has eased between East Timor's Fretilin guerrillas and Indonesian troops but tight military control remains as authorities strive to overcome food shortages, sources here reported.

In rare eyewitness accounts, the sources said the military had reduced infantry and air strikes when Fretilin cut back its hit-and-run attacks around Christmas, probably owing to the intensifying wet season.

However, the military did not rule out a new Fretilin campaign when the rain eased in April. They would not withdraw their 12,000 or so troops while an estimated 700 independence guerrillas scattered in central and eastern districts threatened villages and military posts, the sources said.

Armed clashes could form a background to the Australian Labor Party's national conference in July, when Prime Minister Bob Hawke is expected to ask the party to reverse its opposition to Indonesian rule in East Timor.

The sources said food began running short in central and eastern districts in December. In some areas military security prevented farmers attending crops some distance from villages. In others, the harsh climate, poor soil and outdated farming methods had produced the usual crop failures.

However, the army was steadily overcoming shortages by trucking or airlifting food by helicopter from the provincial capital, Dili, and most villagers were now at least adequately fed, the sources said.

Fretilin, the leftist revolutionary front for an independent East Timor, has waged a sporadic guerrilla war since Indonesia forceably annexed the former Portuguese colony as a province in 1976.

CSO: 4200/607

'GROSS INTERFERENCE' CHARGED TO NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTER

Surabaya SURABAYA POST 7 Jan 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Gross Interference"]

[Text] Since his arrival in Jakarta, Hans van den Broek, foreign minister of the Netherlands, has been raising in a shocking way human-rights questions in Indonesia, especially the cases of the "mysterious killings." Only after meeting with PANGAB [Commander of the Armed Forces] Gen Moerdani did he say that none of that was intended to interfere in the internal affairs of our country, which after all is his host.

Right from the beginning and from the way in which he raised these questions, we could not get rid of the impression that the foreign minister, consciously or not, was interfering in our internal affairs in a gross way. We regret this very much, especially since he says that he is a "friend" of Indonesia.

It is probably not the case that he does not understand diplomatic courtesy or even less that he comes as a colonial-minded official who still thinks that he can do or say anything to the Indonesian people; or even, since it is said that this is the first time that he has been in Indonesia, that he just does not understand the nature and feelings of Indonesians.

If he asks for our forgiveness, as friends we are certainly willing to forgive such a small thing; we even forgave 350 years of Dutch colonial crimes against us.

Even so, we can hope that the foreign minister of the Netherlands and a number of western countries for whom he is perhaps a spokesman in digging up these human-rights questions will for a moment be humble and ask themselves whether the policies of oppression, suppression and political, economic and military interference which they have often imposed on weak countries, both during the colonial period and in the present period of covert colonialism, are in line with these principles of human rights, not to speak of their passion for spending so much money on nuclear arms (to protect their supremacy), while they let hundreds of thousands of people in the developing and poor countries just continue to die of starvation.

We hope that foreign minister of the Netherlands van den Broek thinks about this after he goes home from Indonesia.

## FUNCTION, POLICY OF DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION OUTLINED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 4 Jan 84 pp 1, 9

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS—The existence of the Department of Religion is one form of guarantee and evidence that Indonesia is not a secular state. Indeed, seen from the point of view of the state administrative structure, which is oriented toward the West, the existence of the Department of Religion may be something unique. However, in the Indonesian cultural and historical context, the existence of this department is not something extraordinary or completely new.

The Department of Religion arises out of the history and needs of a people who have been firmly rooted in a system of values and a system of national community since the time of the Hindu and Buddhist empires and particularly since the period of the Islamic kingdoms.

This was stated by Minister of Religion H Munawir Sjadzali, when he commemorated the 38th anniversary of the establishment of the Department of Religion on Tuesday [4 January]. For the Department of Religion a new year always has its own meaning, for the Department of Religion was founded on 3 January 1946, 38 years ago. In commemorating this anniversary the minister urged the personnel of the department to reflect on the task and functions of the Department of Religion.

In the program prepared for the commemoration yesterday [4 January] the minister sought to provide a picture of the Five Objectives [Panca Krida] of the Fourth Development Cabinet in terms of religious development. He explained the five goals which the Fourth Development Cabinet wishes to achieve: development, productivity of the state administrative apparatus, the development of a society based on the Pancasila [Five Principles of the Nation], implementation of foreign policy, and the general elections in 1987.

### Government Policy

He said that the forms of activity involved in satisfying the development trilogy (equal distribution, economic growth, national stability) in the field of religious development include supporting the religious community in increasing its participation in national development and accelerating economic growth. In addition this also involves raising the level of awareness of the religious community of the value of living simply and developing feelings of social solidarity, in a framework of social justice.



However, according to the minister, achieving this goal faces some obstacles. He mentioned the fact that not all social groups feel they are a part of the national development program. Not all religious groups are aware of the importance of living in an economical way and of the characteristic of working hard. Indeed, there are still religious groups which regard the concept of religious community devised by the government as a "community of deception."

Another obstacle is that there are still community groups which in reality work and act in their own interest but pretend to be working in the name of the whole national community. There are still other groups which regard the policy of the government as damaging to religious life.

#### In the Eyes of God

The second objective, increasing the productivity of the state administrative apparatus, is encountering obstacles due to the fact that there are still religious groups which don't put religious values into practice, which are not aware of the value of service. The meaning of this objective is that service is good in the eyes of the community as well as in the eyes of God.

Accounts of improper activities by religious leaders are quickly spread about. This creates an unfortunate image of the religious community as a whole. Another problem is that often the pressures of worldly desires and interests dilute religious attitudes and standards of honesty among the supporters of religion.

#### Single Founding Principle

In terms of the objective of accelerating the development of a society based on the Pancasila, the minister stated that the inclusion of the Pancasila as the "single founding principle" of religious mass organizations does not take away from their special characteristics and the freedom of activity which religion has in achieving its objectives.

The minister said that it is an error to say that the state based on the Pancasila is a secular state. He stated: "The state based on the Pancasila is not a religious state, but it is not a secular state." He said the state based on the Pancasila is a state which pays attention to and promotes the lives of the citizens of the state, both in this world and in the hereafter.

The minister said that the obstacle in this respect is that there are still religious groups which seek to picture the Pancasila as opposed to religion. There are also religious groups which consider that in the P4 Program [Pancasila Indoctrination Program] religion is ignored or placed on the same level as mere beliefs.

There are still religious groups which regard ideologies other than the Pancasila as the foundation of the state, and there are still cases of mutual mistrust between the government and part of the religious community.

Meanwhile, to simplify improving the implementation of our independent and active foreign policy in the service of our national interests, the minister mentioned that in the religious sector Indonesia is taking part in the World Council of

Mosques, the World Council of Churches, the OKI [expansion unknown], and so forth. Problems and challenges often come up with countries which are friendly, measured in terms of religious similarities. Then the independent and active characteristic of our foreign policy is often influenced by religious views, and international religious organizations do not yet play the kind of role we had hoped for.

#### Religion Is Not a Political Party

Regarding the fifth objective, carrying out the general elections of 1987, the minister called on the religious community to use its right to vote and to be elected. It is also necessary to make the religious community aware that religion is not identical with political parties. The minister said: "No religious group in this state founded on the Pancasila has had its political rights taken away."

The minister recalled the standard of whether a group or segment of the population has political rights or not. That is, the right to form associations or parties, the right to take part in the general elections (to vote and be elected), and the right to take part in checking on the course of government through Parliament.

The minister said that these three political rights are fully possessed by the Indonesian religious community. The minister concluded: "By the standards of liberal democracy it can be said that the Indonesian religious community does not fully possess these three rights. However, isn't it true that we have abandoned the liberal democratic system?"

5170

CSO: 4213/143



# KODAM LEADER INVITES MADURESE ULAMA TO SUPPORT PANCASILA

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 13 Jan 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Sampang [Madura]—Major General Sularso, the commander of Military Region VIII/Brawijaya, urged the ulama [Muslim scholars] of Madura to work with the government to support the ideology of the Pancasila [Five Principles of the Nation], so that we will no longer drift aimlessly, as has occurred in the past.

He said this Friday morning [13 January] when he met face to face with about 420 ulama from Sampang and Bangkalan Regencies at the auditorium of Sampang Regency. This was the first such occasion for Major General Sularso since he became commander of the Military Region 8 months ago.

On this occasion he spoke about political, economic, social, cultural, and defense and security developments in Indonesia, and particularly in East Java.

Kyai Haji Mu'afa Alim Zaini, chairman of the Sampang Assembly of Ulama, confirmed that the commander of the Military Region also sought to achieve recognition of the Pancasila as the single founding principle of the nation by checking how far this has been applied.

This was in connection with the incident at Situbondo [East Java] when about 30 Madurese ulama issued a statement which asked the NU [Muslim Scholars Party] National Conference to reject the inclusion of the Pancasila as the single founding principle of the party.

Mu'afa Alim said that the commander of Military Region VIII heard the views of the ulama directly in a special meeting with 15 of the leaders from the Madura branch of the NU. He received a statement from them stating that the Situbondo tubondo incident was regarded as closed and limited in extent, only affecting the sessions of the NU National Conference.

Since the NU National Conference decided to accept the Pancasila as the single founding principle of the NU, the 30 ulama of Madura who prepared the statement have accepted the consequences and have bowed to the decision of the NU National Conference. Mu'afa Alim said: "The commander himself received such an assurance." He also said that he himself was not a member of the NU but belonged to GOLKAR [Functional Groups party].

After the meeting the commander of the Military Region attended Friday prayers at the Jamik Mosque in Sampang.

In accordance with his plans, tomorrow [14 January] the commander will meet with ulama from Pamekasan and Sumenep [Madura] at the meeting hall of Sumenep Regency.

On the occasion of this visit to Madura the commander gave 2 million rupiahs in assistance funds for helping the victims of natural disasters in Madura. The commander welcomed the results of the NU National Conference of Ulama and its decision regarding the Pancasila which, in his view, should be respected and followed. The decision of the NU National Conference is a result of clear and objective thinking in accordance with our needs at this time, that is, accepting the Pancasila as our single founding principle, the commander said as he received the applause of the ulama.

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CSO: 4213/149

## MORE ON RIFT IN SURABAYA PDI

## Surabaya PDI Committee Not Recognized

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 12 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Jakarta--The Central Executive Council of the PDI [Indonesian Democracy Party] does not recognize the existence of the rival Surabaya Branch Executive Committee led by Latief Asmarayuda. It continues to recognize the functioning Branch Executive Council of the PDI led by Sutam Sukarno.

This was stated by Doctor Marsoesi, chairman of the Provincial Executive Council of the PDI in East Java to a SURABAYA POST representative in Jakarta on Thursday [12 January]. Doctor Marsoesi was received by the Central Executive Council of the PDI on Sunday [8 January]. As a result of the meeting the Central Executive Council of the PDI, led by Sunawar Sukowati, its general chairman, finally decided that it could not issue a letter of decision recognizing the Surabaya Branch Executive Committee led by Latief Asmarayuda.

Doctor Marsoesi said that the central leadership of the party had carefully studied developments in the Surabaya Branch of the PDI, which began with the dismissal of party leaders [komisaris] and later led to reactions from party officials which ended in the formation of the rival branch executive council.

Marsoesi said: "I did not give the rival branch executive council time to obtain a letter confirming its authority, and it is clear that they did not succeed in obtaining such a letter." He did not mention the serial number of the supposed letter of confirmation.

As the leader of the Provincial Executive Council of the PDI in East Java, he warned party officials in Surabaya to respect the instructions of the Central Executive Council of the PDI, which is the highest institution of the party and also has power to issue letters of confirmation for branch executive committees of the PDI. All groups concerned in this matter, both in East Java as well as in Surabaya, should rise above faction on this occasion.

As of now he is emphasizing to PDI party activists throughout East Java not to attempt to establish branch executive councils rivaling those already existing. They should concentrate their efforts on preparing for the 11th anniversary of the establishment of the PDI, so that this occasion can be celebrated in a simple but joyful way. They should be particularly active in preparing for branch conferences at which new leaders will be chosen throughout East Java and which will be held between January and June 1984.

## Rival PDI Council to Disband

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 16 Jan 84 p 2

[Text] Surabaya--The rival executive committee of the PDI in Surabaya, which is led by Latief Asmarayuda, has finally submitted a letter of apology to the party central leadership.

The letter of apology was presented in Jakarta 2 days ago when four party leaders, including Latief Asmarayuda, Achmad Balukh, and Ami Purwono, met with the Daily Working Board (BPH) of the Central Executive Council of the PDI, whose chairman is Prof Dr Soenawar Soekowati.

Doctor Marsoesi, chairman of the PDI in East Java, who met with one of our representatives last night [15 January], declared that after party officials in Surabaya admitted their mistake in forming a rival branch, the Provincial Executive Council of the PDI immediately entered into consultations with individuals as well as with organizations.

Doctor Marsoesi rejected the appointment of Nur Hasan, first deputy chairman of the Provincial Executive Council of the PDI in East Java, by John Pekan (secretary of the Central Executive Council) to resolve the dispute within the PDI in Surabaya. According to Doctor Marsoesi, this question will be thoroughly considered, in an organizational way, by the Provincial Executive Council of the PDI in East Java. In principle the Provincial Executive Council will confirm the authority of the old leadership, that is, as a group. All provincial party policies in principle will be decided by a party meeting, Marsoesi said.

He recalled that the Provincial Party Council was bound to a program, and whoever later is assigned the task of resolving this matter will always base his efforts on a "delegation of authority" from the Provincial Party Council. This means that if there is no local chairman in a given branch, another leader who is designated for the position can carry out the tasks assigned to him. Marsoesi said jokingly: "The task of chairman of the Provincial Executive Council in East Java is very easy."

### Dissolved

He added that he had received a letter from the Central Executive Council, instructing him to resolve the PDI problem in Surabaya immediately. Since the rival branch executive council of the PDI was unable to obtain a letter of recognition from the Central Executive Council, the leadership of this group, which was formed on 1 January, has been dissolved in an organizational sense.

To carry out the instructions from the Central Executive Council, Marsoesi and the PDI leadership in East Java will clarify the matter to party officials in the districts throughout Surabaya. This will be included in the program of the leadership of the Provincial Executive Council "to go down to the masses" and explain the matter to all party branches.

## Aspirations

Meanwhile, Achmad Balukh, the secretary of the rival Surabaya Branch Executive Council of the PDI, stated that the three party members from the Surabaya branch who went to Jakarta were received by Prof Dr Soenawar Soekowati, chairman of the Central Executive Council of the PDI, who was accompanied by Yusuf Merukh, John Pakan, and Sabam Sirait.

Belukh admitted that the rival Surabaya Branch Executive Council of the PDI was not recognized by the Central Executive Council. However, this did not mean that the rival branch had already been dissolved. The rival branch organization would only be dissolved when the Central Executive Council makes the "final decision" on the matter. However, as party officials, they will support and respect any decision by the highest leadership of the party and are prepared to carry out such a decision in a responsible way.

Balukh asked PDI party officials in Surabaya to remain calm. The respective personnel should maintain local stability. If, at this time, we take one step backward, later we will take two steps forward. Another party official said that what is important now is to wait for the final decision of the Central Executive Council.

## Pemuda Demokrat Claims Noninvolvement in Dispute

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 16 Jan 84 p 2

[Text] Surabaya—A joint statement by all of the leaders of the Surabaya branch of Indonesian Democratic Youth, which was issued on Sunday evening [15 January], declares that the dispute within the Surabaya branch of the PDI [Indonesian Democracy Party], which has a number of leaders of the Indonesian Democratic Youth organization within it, is a matter which concerns them in an individual capacity only. Their actions are on their own responsibility, and the leadership of the Indonesian Democratic Youth organization is not involved in the dispute within the Surabaya Branch Executive Council of the PDI.

The statement, which was signed by 17 members of the Surabaya leadership of the Indonesian Democratic Youth organization, was intended to clarify a matter which has been uncertain. For example, Mentik Budiwijono, deputy chairman of the East Java region of Indonesian Democratic Youth, a few days ago indicated that the Surabaya branch of Indonesian Democratic Youth would "intervene" directly in the Surabaya branch of the Indonesian Democracy Party.

It was believed that this indication by Mentik was deliberately intended to give this impression. The purpose was to damage the image and record of service of Indonesian Democratic Youth among the Indonesian people. This was stated by Abdussamad, the spokesman for the organization.

According to Abdussamad, Indonesian Democratic Youth is an independent, open organization based on the Pancasila [Five Principles of the Nation] and the Constitution of 1945. It is a youth organization which represents itself as an organization which trains cadres for the nation. As an independent organization, Indonesian Democratic Youth continues to grant full freedom to its leaders, as



individuals, and to its members to choose one of the social and political forces referred to in Law No 3 of 1975 concerning political parties and GOLKAR [Functional Groups party].

#### Party Officials

If leaders of Indonesian Democratic Youth are involved in the dispute in the Surabaya branch of the Indonesian Democracy Party, this is because those who are connected with this affair are chairmen of party sections at the district level.

Abdussamad, chairman VI of the Surabaya branch of Indonesian Democratic Youth, asked all members of the Indonesian Democratic Youth organization in Surabaya, as well as officials of the youth organization, to remain calm. They should continue to consolidate the organization, as they were originally determined to do, that is, by making a success of the government program. He emphasized that all leaders and members of the Surabaya branch of Indonesian Democratic Youth must maintain stability and security. All ranks of the organization, down to the lowest level, must protect the unity and union of Indonesian Democratic Youth.

5170

CSO: 4213/149



## EDITORIAL DISCUSSES GROWTH RATE IN 4TH 5-YEAR PLAN

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 29 Feb 84 pp 3, 4

[Editorial: "Our Growth Rate"]

[Text] Minister of Finance Drs. Radius Prawiro at a recent hearing with the House budgetary commission here once again emphasized that Indonesia's growth rate of five percent in Pelita IV is proper and within reach. Though for the first two years the minister puts the rate below five percent, in the last three years of Pelita IV the deficiency will be covered so that the average growth rate will finally reach five percent per annum.

By calculating the sectoral growth rate multiplied by the different weights of the respective sectors (according to their contributions to the Gross Domestic Product, which also change each year due to the diverse rates of inter sectoral growth) for five years the average growth in the course of Pelita IV can be estimated. However, methods of calculation by the constant price and the effective price will produce different growth rates & weights.

Similarly, the basis of calculation by the constant price, which officially still follows the constant price of 1973, should be questioned. For instance, if the calculation uses the new constant price viz. that of 1983, the growth rate to be achieved by Pelita IV will apparently be better than that produced by the constant price of 1973. This is because the basis for 1983 is already low as a result of declining growth in 1981 and 1982. On the other hand, the calculation of national income by using the constant price of 1973 should indeed be reviewed. The constant price of 1973 was put into effect after researchers of national income had used the constant price of 1960 for a fairly long time.

Therefore if any effort is made to change the calculation of national income by the new constant price, this in fact is opportune. The high growth rate in the 1970s was also owing to the use of the constant price of 1973 on the one hand & the very significant oil boom in 1974 and 1978/79 on the other. Consequently, if we want to take a look at the further trend of growth there is the oil factor that becomes a disturbing factor in the trend analysis. This oil factor again became a disturbing factor in 1983, but this time with a negative effect for us, i.e. the oil price drop and the production quota imposed by OPEC.

In making the projection of growth for Pelita IV economic planners seem to have been very cautious in the calculation of the oil factor and the change in future OPEC policies. Though the OPEC situation today is considered in a greater setback than it was in the 1970s when it held oligopolistic control, it is premature to omit the OPEC factor in its influence on production and oil prices. So the assumption made by the planners that no drastic change will take place in the price and volume of oil exports is cautious enough.

An analysis on national income and projection of growth is inseparable from the calculation of the trade balance and the balance of payments. Indonesia's import trend in its growth has always been faster than the economic growth rate. This can happen thanks to the country's strong foreign exchange reserves as a result of our oil exports. Rescheduling of investments has reduced the burden on the balance of payments. But the effect on investments is a slash that will also affect growth reduction. Here lies a problem concerning the intention to minimize imports and the desire to promote industrial growth. Since the oil factor as a source of foreign exchange has been considerably reduced, other efforts are required to produce foreign exchange for industry whose foreign exchange component remains very high. Despite the "declaration" of the role of non-oil/gas exports from 24.9 percent of the export value in the final year of Pelita III to 35.4% in 1988/89, it is obvious that the oil/gas factor as a foreign exchange earning power remains very dominant.

Another important question is the serious lack of efficiency on the part of state/regional enterprises, cooperatives, the private sector as a whole. By examining and raising the problem of inefficiency continuously as well as ensuring concrete measures among all relevant circles, the growth rate and productivity will be positively affected. Some developments that are difficult to estimate such as oil as a disturbing factor, the world economic recession and recovery, should better be treated as something given, which indeed is important to discuss but is also evident that in the last instance there is not much we can do at present.

The five percent growth rate for Pelita IV can be described as realistic or too optimistic or even too low. Different methods of calculation and diverse assumptions are capable of producing various figures. But if we wish to increase our growth rate, we have actually known the "formula" for a long time, viz. the necessity to work efficiently and productively. Some people, however, are right in saying that there has always been a great distance between will, ability and realisation.

CSO: 4200/607

MP'S COMMENT ON DRAFT BUDGETS, PAY RAISE

Realistic Budget

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 10 Jan 84 pp 1, 9

[Text] The leadership of the factions and the APBN [State Budget] commission in the DPR [Parliament] have estimated that the 1984/1985 RAPBN [Draft Budget] is realistic.

Vice-chairman of the APBN commission Hamzah Haz, B.S., from the Development Unity Faction (F-PP), believes that the 1984/1985 budget will be only 5 percent higher than the previous year's.

He also said that the APBN legislated at the end of February 1983 was balanced at 16.5 trillion rupiahs, but that the devaluation of 1 March 1983 changed this to between 19 and 20 trillion rupiahs. "This means that the increase was only about 0.5 or 1 trillion rupiahs!" said Hamzah Haz. (The 1984/1985 APBN is 20.5 trillion rupiahs.) This all means that the real value of expenditures for the development budget in the upcoming RAPBN will be smaller than the previous APBN.

"From PELITA [5-Year Plan] I to the end of PELITA III, the 1984/1985 RAPBN shows the smallest percentage increase!" he explained.

This member of the DPR, who once estimated the 1984/1985 RAPBN at 20.8 trillion rupiahs, went on to explain that the biggest increase in percentage was in the 1974/1975 fiscal year. The increase was 30 percent over the previous year.

According to Hamzah Haz, the increase in the 1984/1985 RAPBN is even smaller, considering that the rate of inflation is 11 percent this year. In that respect, the government must be more careful and more cautious. "At least pay close attention to the policies which have been put into effect up to now. Don't carry out developments which you can't afford, especially since we have fixed PELITA IV as the years in which to lay the basic framework.

Such policies require a large investment and include the use of rather large amounts of foreign exchange. For this reason, we must pay careful attention to implementing the tax laws. "Besides increasing revenues, the country must also encourage more exports!" said Hamzah Haz.

It is feared that if we do not succeed in increasing exports and internal revenues, the government might lose the momentum for development and a 5 percent growth rate will not be achieved.

#### In Line with What the Masses Want

Elsewhere, R. Soekardi, chairman of the Development Work Faction (F-KP), estimated that the RAPBN submitted by the government is in line with what the masses want. In order to continue with development, the government in addition to building a good apparatus must also be able to look for new sources of income and be thrifty.

According to Soekardi, the success of development is influenced by at least two factors. First, a high degree of discipline in the government apparatus. Second, coordinated planning. "Because the budget is limited, it must be used as efficiently as possible!" he explained.

The chairman of the F-KP mentioned tight control as a condition for the efficient use of the budget. "We must encourage the role of society!" said Soekardi.

#### In Line with What the F-PP Wants

In his office, the chairman of the Development Unity Faction (F-PP), Soedardji, Drs, examined in particular the 15 percent increase in government employee salaries. "It is in line with the kind of increase in government employee salaries that our faction has been struggling for!" said this member of the DPR who is also known as "the white eel."

Although he was pleased with this, Soedardji also warned the government to make strong efforts to stop inflation by speeding the flow of basic staples to the market, in particular the nine basic staples, so that prices do not go up. If there are signs that prices are going to go up, the government should step in right away.

He warned consumers not to make a run on the market thinking that prices are going to go up. If consumers curb their purchases but prices keep on going up, the government should operate openly in the market. "If necessary, import. This is a matter of national interest!," Soedardji explained.

#### Pay Raise

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 10 Jan 84 pp 1, 9

[Excerpts] H. Nuddin Lubis, vice-chairman of the DPR/DPR [as published] [Peoples Consultative Assembly], said that the increase in government employee and ABRI salaries and pensions was perfectly correct.

"But because of this 15 percent increase, I think that the prices of daily staples will catch up to the increase, and this will have some effect on those government employees, ABRI [Republic of Indonesia Armed Forces] and pensioners," said Nuddin

commenting on the government's '84/'85 RAPBN report which was submitted by President Suharto to the DPR yesterday.

#### Act of Bravery

Jusuf Merukh, chairman of the PDI [Indonesian Democracy Party] faction said that the 24.1 percent increase in the 1984/1985 RAPBN over the 1983/1984 APBN is an act of bravery on the part of the government, considering that the world is still suffering from a recession.

Jusuf Merukh, chairman of the PDI faction, said in response to President Suharto's speech on the 1984/1985 RAPBN to a plenary session of the DPR on Sunday [8 January 1984] that he supported the government's act of bravery, considering that this APBN is for the first year of PELITA IV.

"And if the government is not brave enough to increase the budget, it will be an obstacle to the increasingly large work force," said Jusuf Merukh.

Meanwhile, Amin Iskandar, member of the DPR who is also from the PP faction, also believes that from the viewpoint of devaluation and if we do not count inflation, this RAPBN has not increased very much. But even so, it is very encouraging because not a single nation has not had to face the shocks resulting from this worldwide recession.

According to Amin Iskandar, that we can even hold out is an achievement to be proud of, particularly with a 20.5 trillion rupiah budget which includes a raise in pay for government employees.

If salaries are not raised, according to Amin, we would be left behind. In Israel alone inflation has reached 500 percent, in Brazil 30 percent, and so on for other countries.

"This has caused a shock and yet we can control our achievements," said this member of DPR commission I.

#### Hardjantho's Comment

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 10 Jan 84 p 8

Excerpts

#### Year of Struggle

Meanwhile, Hardjantho Sumodisastro, vice-chairman of the DPR, concluded that 1984/1985 will still be a year of struggle for the Indonesian people.

Hardjantho told reporters in his office on Monday [9 January 1984] that since these are years of struggle, society must have the endurance and enthusiasm to achieve an increase in the GNP and the success of PELITA after PELITA.



Hardjantho himself hopes that the estimated draft budget of 20.5 trillion rupiahs, in particular state revenues, will be higher in practice, if at all possible. He said that an increase in the estimated revenues will aid in carrying out future PELITAs. Therefore, PELITA V can be directed toward its real targets, and we can really take off in PELITA VI.

According to Hardjantho, one thing that we must think about is how to increase exports in order to produce large amounts of foreign exchange. We should not be lulled by our traditional products. If Indonesia just depends on its traditional products, which have only a domestic market, state revenues will automatically slow down.

He suggested opening up new markets in the socialist countries. It will be a challenge for entrepreneurs, the government and for cooperatives to mine nontraditional products as much as possible.

#### Relief

Hardjantho said that government plans to raise the salaries of government employees should be respected. These plans are a relief.

And yet, plans to increase the price of fuel oil should not increase the price more than the increase in salaries with the result that the salary increase is meaningless.

9846  
CSO: 4213/146

# RP 107 BILLION LOST THROUGH CORRUPTION IN 1983

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 3 Feb 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Jakarta, 3 February--During 1983 state funds lost due to corruption totaled about 107 billion rupiahs. This was stated by Attorney General Ismail Saleh to reporters on Tuesday afternoon [31 January] after he had reported to the president at his home on Jalan Cendana in Jakarta on criminal cases handled throughout Indonesia by the Attorney General's Office in the course of 1983.

These cases involved corruption, subversion, economic crimes, and violations of territorial waters. Out of the total amount of state funds lost, about 4.4 billion were recovered. The small amount recovered, according to the attorney general, was due to the fact that it is not easy to locate property obtained through corruption.

There were 1,455 cases handled by the Attorney General's Office during 1983, consisting of 1,076 cases of corruption, 129 cases of subversion, 213 cases of economic crimes, and 17 cases involving violations of territorial waters.

## Presented to the Courts

Of the cases of corruption, 128 involved the reforestation program; 39, the transmigration program; 215, the cooperatives; 35, Presidential Instruction SD [expansion unknown]; 34, PRPTE [Project for the Rehabilitation and Development of Export Projects]; 21, village development projects; 15 cases involved PRONA [expansion unknown]; and there were 559 miscellaneous cases. With specific regard to corruption cases the chief of state instructed the attorney general that if enough legal evidence is available, cases should be presented to the courts.

The attorney general said that the existence of corruption cases does not mean that we are in a serious situation but rather shows our determination and intention of creating a government which is clean and which has authority.

The total number of state employees involved in corruption cases during 1983 was 354 from 17 departments. In addition to presenting these cases to the courts, administrative punishments were ordered against them, based on Government Regulation No 4/1966 and Government Regulation 30/1980.

The government departments involved in these cases were the Departments of Finance, Foreign Affairs, Manpower, Home Affairs, Agriculture, Transmigration, Communications, Forestry, Social Affairs, Religion, Education and Culture, Industry, Cooperatives, Tourism, Post and Telecommunications, Health, Public Works, and Justice.

The names of the state employees involved in corruption cases have been reported by the Attorney General's Office to the minister concerned.

5170  
CSO: 4213/143

MANPOWER MINISTER ON EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION, SKILLS

Jakarta MUTIARA in Indonesia No 311, 4-18 Jan 84 p 5

[Interview with Sudomo, minister of manpower by Hans Sinaulan and Musfihin Dahlan in Jakarta, date not specified]

[Text] This year, 1984, we are entering PELITA [5-Year Plan] IV. It has been estimated that the Indonesian economic growth rate, unlike previous years, will only be 5 percent a year. This certainly affects the area of manpower, which has been discussed a lot recently.

For this reason, MUTIARA reporters Hans Sinaulan and Musfihin Dahlan interviewed Minister of Manpower Sudomo in his office just before last Christmas. Excerpts follow.

[Question] It has turned out that development projects from PELITA I to PELITA III have not been able to respond to the challenges of the manpower problem. What is your opinion?

[Answer] I do not agree. The aim of these development projects has been to catch up to rising demands and to create jobs. The number of jobs depends on two factors.

The first is the problem of population growth. If we continue to produce children, and this is seen as a recreation, it will certainly be a problem.

The rate of population growth, even if planned parenthood (KB) succeeds, is still 2.3 per cent a year. This means that beginning this year the increase in population will be about 3.1 million people, given a present population of 154 million. About 40 percent of that increase, or about 1.5 to 2 million people, will enter the job market.

The second is the amount of economic development. If the economy grows, it means many jobs will become available. From PELITA I to PELITA III it was not a problem. The economic growth rate was 7 percent a year. Using the formula of multiplying by 0.3, the growth in employment was 2.1 percent a year. Only 0.2 percent was left without employment.

The problem is going to come in PELITA IV. The economic growth rate is only 5 percent. If population growth is not kept down to 2.3 percent, we must make jobs

available for 0.8 percent of the work force, about 480,000 positions. This is hard.

On the subject of sources of employment, as long as there is economic development, there will be jobs. The figures are: an investment of 1 billion rupiah, directly or indirectly creates jobs for 300 people. Just figure it out. The 1982/1983 state budget (ABN) was about 9 trillion rupiahs. Second, taking on government employees. There are already 150,000 of them. Then, sending manpower abroad, and investments, both PMA [Foreign Capital Investment] and PMDN [Domestic Capital Investment]. There also are still traditional workers in Malaysia.

[Question] Many groups are pessimistic about our ability to solve the unemployment problem in PELITA IV. What is your comment on that? What strategy would you follow?

[Answer] We do not have to be pessimistic. The problem is as follows. Let's say that there are many school dropouts or SMTP/SMTA [Junior High Technical School/ Senior High Technical School] graduates who cannot afford to continue their education. They are not unemployed; they continue to work for their parents. Especially those who live in the villages. Eighty percent of the Indonesian population lives in the villages. The remaining 20 percent in the cities are also not unemployed. They sell newspapers or sell things at sidewalk stands. This is not really unemployment.

Nobody who tries hard will starve to death here in Indonesia.

Our strategy is to find a way to hold down population growth and increase economic growth, if possible, not by 5 percent but by more than 7 percent. And then increase productivity by increasing training and skills.

[Question] There is something odd here. The work force is overflowing but available jobs are not filled. Why?

[Answer] The answer is the low level of education and the lack of skills. Don't expect to find a job. Employers are now looking for well-educated, skilled workers. Then productivity will be high.

In this connection, we are trying to get employers to take on unskilled workers. Besides that, SMTA graduates are put right into the Work Training Program. They are being motivated to work and not just expect to sit behind a desk.

[Question] Our present educational system has not yet succeeded in training ready-to-use workers. What are your comments on this? Are there efforts being made to adjust the educational system to the demands of the job market.?

[Answer] Education provides basic knowledge to those entering the job market later. First, direct preparation in school. We organize our educational system so as to fit into our development needs. Let's not produce 50 engineers if we only need 20, or produce welders if we want shoemakers.

Second, we need education for skills, as in the STM [Middle Technical School]. Through guidance and the motivation to be self-sufficient they will be able to



enter the work force quickly. They will be able to work. Now, they cannot. They still have to get more training.

There are changes taking place now. We are working together with the Department of Education and Culture.

[Question] Our work force is weak because it is unskilled and unprofessional. What they know is not what the job market demands. What is your opinion?

[Answer] This is the problem. A low level of education produces limited abilities. The same with productivity. We are now trying to have every business provide education and training. In this way, every worker can increase his own skills.

I am asking every business to provide manpower planning and career training. In this way for example, a welder can become a pipe fitter, then a foreman, then a supervisor. This must be clear. In this way we can achieve the professionalism I mentioned earlier.

[Question] What kind of workers do you think that we need for development?

[Answer] There are four kinds of qualifications which they must have: they must be motivated, highly disciplined, highly skilled and courteous in the Indonesian way. For that, they must take the P4 [Orientation Toward Experiencing and Implementing PANCASILA (Five Principles of the Nation)] upgrading course and have military training in order to be highly disciplined. This has already begun in the Work Training Program.

[Question] Why does our work force continue to be weak?

[Answer] This is a legacy of our colonial past and the period in which we embraced liberal democracy. Our labor laws were made about 1954, during the liberal period. In these laws, we still talked about the relations between boss and worker. This created separate classes, the weak and the strong.

We must now change that orientation. Entrepreneurs and employees must be partners, equally low when sitting down and equally high when standing up.

[Question] What is being done to create a self-employed work force?

[Answer] They are being channeled into the Work Training Program (BLK) to acquire skills. The program is then linked up to the bank so that as soon as they finish their training they can receive working capital. That way, they can stand on their own two feet and open their own business.

[Question] What is your advice to job seekers in Indonesia?

[Answer] They must prepare themselves, get more education and skills through work training.

I suggest that it is of prime importance to master English. By knowing English they will easily be able to get a well-paid job. If they want to go abroad, to the Middle East, master Arabic.

Every worker should realize that he is starting at the bottom. Then he will advance commensurate with his experience. And he must have the right mental attitude.

There is going to be a National Work Training Board which will determine standards and skill qualifications for workers. In this way, we will recognize the skills that have been acquired.

9846

CSO: 4213/146

WEST EUROPE STILL WIDE OPEN TO INDONESIAN COMMODITIES

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 15 Feb 84 pp 5, 6

[Text] BPEN (National Agency for Export Development) is of the view that Indonesian exporters should realize that West Europe is still widely open to Indonesian non-oil/non-gas export commodities.

Ten countries are grouped in the European Economic Community and eight other countries are in the European Free Trade Area. The EEC members consist of Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, West Germany, Italy, Denmark, Ireland, Britain and Greece. Those grouped in the EFTA comprise Austria, Finland, Norway, Iceland, Portugal, Switzerland, Sweden and Spain.

The EEC member countries altogether have a population of around 258 million. Those countries need imports of non-oil/non-gas commodities in big volumes for their industries.

EEC's imports reach an average of around US\$ 240 billion a year, comprising raw materials 13 percent, foods 13 percent, manufacturing instruments 7 per cent, machinery and transportation equipment 13 percent, manufactured products 15 percent, chemicals 4 percent, various kinds of oil and fats 1 percent, fuel products 31 percent, drinks and tobacco 1% and other products 2 percent.

Indonesia's export to the EEC stood at US\$ 1.2 billion in 1982, still below 1 percent of the overall EEC's imports. Thus, the EEC is still widely open to Indonesian commodities.

Around 48% of EEC trade partners consist of advanced/industrialised countries, 7 percent European countries, 44 percent the developing countries and 1% other countries.

The expansion of Indonesia's exports to West Europe can be managed through Indonesian embassies or consulates general, or through the Indonesian Trade Promotion Centre (ITPC) in London and Hamburg, the Asean Trade Promotion Centre (ATPC) in Rotterdam, INDOHAM in Hamburg for plantation commodities, the Tin Marketing Office in London and Brussels, the representative of Indonesia National Liners in Hamburg, GIA representatives in various cities and the INOVERS Bank in Amsterdam & Hamburg.

The promotion of non-oil/non-gas exports has been handled by making approaches to government as well as private institutions in accredited countries, through the EEC forum in Brussels, through trade exhibitions or by sending sales missions.

The holding of trade exhibitions and the sending of sales missions are usually followed by trade inquiries and individual meetings with importers in the countries concerned. Such activities have created concrete trade relations & trial order involving large volume of commodities.

Trade exhibitions in Europe have generally created trade contacts. Among trade exhibitions held this month are International Furniture Fair in Marseilles, International Houseware/Gift in Birmingham and International Spring Fair in Frankfurt.

CSO: 4200/581

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNED BY MINES AND ENERGY DEPARTMENT

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 15 Feb 84 p 8

[Text] Foreign exchange earned by state-run companies under the Mines & Energy Department in the 1980-1984 period is estimated at around US\$ 300 million-US\$ 500 million/year. The annual value of foreign exchange earnings is estimated at US\$ 560 million in 1980, US\$ 486 million in 1981, US\$ 412 million in 1982, US\$ 295 million in 1983 and US\$ 301 million in 1984.

Two of state-run companies under the Mines & Energy Department, PLN (State Electricity Company) and PGN (State Gas Company), do not produce foreign exchange as their products are provided only for the domestic supply.

PT. Bukit Asam, a coal mining company at Bukit Asam, exports only small part of its product, and the bigger part of its product is for the domestic supply. The detailed description of foreign exchange earnings produced by each state-run company under the Mines and Energy Department from 1980 to 1984 is as follows: (in million rupiahs)

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>
PT Timah	120,380	55,199	21,958	15,869	49,955
PT Antam	14,952	558	(3,898)	1,839	2,966
PN Batubara	-	(386)	1,219	2,217	1,422
PT Bukit Asam	-	-	(1,822)	(218)	-
P G N	(205)	(657)	(25)	-	-
P L N	39,325	16,650	2,255	21,472	-

PT Bukit Asam is assigned to manage a coal mine at Bukit Asam to supply coal as an energy source to a steam power plant at Suralaya, West Java. The company is expected to start commercial operation after 1987, with a scheduled production capacity of 3 million tons/year.

The PGN state gas company has not been able to off set the cost of its operation as the bigger part of its production units, except its production units in Jakarta & Bogor, still use residual oil, which is relatively more expensive, as the basic material. The PGN production units in Bogor and



Jakarta have used natural gas as the basic material. Apart from that, the volume of gas sold by the company is still relatively small.

More investments are required for the development in the marketing of gas by PGN, especially for the rehabilitation of distribution pipes and installation of new distribution pipes.

CSO: 4200/581

## PIR PLANTATION PROJECTS OPEN TO FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 15 Feb 84 p 6

[Text] The development of plantations under the PIR (nucleus estate for smallholders) system, particularly oil palm plantations, is open to foreign private capital invested through joint venture. This was stated here recently by Sukamdani Gitosardjono, chairman of Kadin (Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry), after he met President Soeharto in connection with the plan of Kadin and the Department of Agriculture to hold a workshop on agrobusiness.

The investment of foreign capital in the development of plantations under the PIR scheme is needed as a supplement to national private capital amounting to Rp 68 trillion in Repelita IV (fourth five-year development plan), Sukamdani explained.

The president told the Kadin chairman that the ownership of the plantations handled under the PIR system was not absolutely determined at 80 percent for the farmers taking part in the project and 20 percent for private companies involved. In response to the explanation given by the President, Sukamdani, on behalf of Kadin, proposed the ownership of plantations at 50 : 50.

When oil palm plantations handled under the PIR system have been productive, each farmer taking part in the project will receive two hectares than can be paid by instalments. HGU (land title for business purposes) given to private companies participating in the project is for 30 years and the term can be extended by 30 or 20 more years depending upon the demand.

The Head of Government called on Indonesian businessmen to make thorough studies before handling certain projects, such as the palm oil plantation project.

In view of the limited funds provided for development programs through the 1984/85 state budget, the President suggested the national private side to look for additional funds in accordance with their potential. In this connection, he suggested the maximum use of local fund sources.

CSO: 4200/581

MINISTER ON TARGETS OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN REPELITA IV

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 15 Feb 84 p 9

[Text] Industrial development in Indonesia in Repelita IV will be directed to a position that will support the national plan to take off national development only with the available potential in the country in Repelita VI, Minister of Industry Ir. Hartarto stated here recently.

For the purpose, the industrial sector must be able to grow and develop with out external support in Repelita VI, according to the minister. In this connection, he pointed to the need for:

--a strong and dynamic national industrial structure, with relatively small dependence upon imports of complementary/basic materials, and marked by inter linkage between industrial growth and the development of other economic sectors;

--well developed machinery and electronic industries, with relatively small dependence upon imports of capital goods;

--well developed and strong small scale industries;

--well developed export programs, with real contribution to the collection of foreign exchange through non-oil/non-gas export drive;

--well developed software, especially in design and engineering, supporting:

a. the growth of basic industries, multifarious manufacturing industries and small scale industries; and

b. the dynamic development of metal, machinery and electronic industries;

--improvement of professional ability in the middle and top management and professional ability of experts dealing with basic industries, multifarious industries and small scale industries in an adequate number and the rapid development of entrepreneurship.

A strong foundation to take off industrial development without being dependent on foreign aid must have been laid down at the end of Repelita IV, according to the minister. The foundation, he said, should cover:

- the industrial structure
- machinery industries
- export programs in the industrial sector
- software, particularly in dealing with the design and engineering fields
- promotion in the use of local products
- the skill of those working in the industrial sector.

Steps already taken by the government to boost the development of the industrial sector include:

- stepping up the use of the national design capacity,
- handling projects in accordance with schedule and plans,
- stepping up the contribution of the industrial sector to the collection of state revenue, and
- continued improvement of the industrial climate.

CSO: 4200/581

## SMALLHOLDER SUGAR CANE GROWERS CALL FOR REVIEW OF SUGAR BASE PRICE

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 2 Jan 84 pp 1, 11

[Text] Jakarta, Sunday [1 January]--Farmers involved in the TRI program [People's Sugar Cane Intensification Program] in Central Java have asked the government and BULOG [Bureau of Logistical Affairs] to review the basic sugar purchase price now in effect, which is 35,000 rupiahs per quintal of sugar cane. They say that at this price is not high enough to finance their operations, and many of the farmers are suffering losses.

In addition, farmers participating in the TRI program also urge that the 40:60 concept for dividing production of sugar (40 percent for the sugar mill and 60 percent for the farmer) be changed to 30:70, in view of the fact that all of the components involved in sugar cane planting are continuously rising in cost.

This was stated by TRI farmers at a number of sugar mills in Central Java to a joint team made up of members of Committee IV and Committee V of the Development Unity Faction of Parliament, chaired by Imam Chourmen, deputy chairman of Committee IV. The team recently made a working visit to Central Java and visited the Rendeng sugar mill at Kudus, the Cepiring mill at Kendal, the Sragi and the Sumberharjo mills at Pemalang, and the Pangka mill at Tegal.

In his discussion with the members of Parliament, the head of the TRI farmers' group from the five sugar mills said that Presidential Instruction No 9 of 1975, was intended to increase farmer income, among other things. However, what they were experiencing was just the opposite. According to them, during the 1982-83 sugar cane planting season more than a few TRI farmers suffered losses which varied from 100,000 to 500,000 rupiahs per hectare.

For example, the head of the farmers group from Cepiring sugar mill told the team from the Development Unity Faction that sugar cane planting during the 1982-83 season in Cepiring district, which covered 627 hectares, resulted in the loss of 40 million rupiahs. The losses in the three districts of Batang, Weleri, and Cepiring totaled 98 million rupiahs. For that reason, he said, Presidential Instruction No 9 of 1975, whose object was to increase the income of TRI farmers, is inadequate as presently applied.

This was also stated by the chairman of the KUD [Village Unit Cooperative] at Sumberharjo sugar mill, who said that during the 1982-83 harvest season the



losses suffered by the farmers' group ranged around 15 percent, and for the groups as a whole the loss was about 70 million rupiahs.

#### Compound Interest

According to the farmers, the cause of the losses is the fact that the basic sugar price is considered inadequate, as is the 40:60 formula for dividing the production. Other causes are the lack of management experience in the Village Unit Cooperatives [KUD], delays in transporting the sugar cane to the mills, stoppages in the grinding of the cane due to machinery breakdowns, the long rainy season, inadequate management of irrigation water, and the continued existence of bureaucratic complications.

Ironically, while they are suffering losses, the loans they obtain from the BRI [Indonesian People's Bank] are at 12 percent interest annually, on a compound interest basis. The result is that not only are the TRI farmers complaining but the impression is emerging that they don't want to continue with the TRI program.

Therefore, the TRI farmers asked the members of Parliament from the Development Unity Faction that they be given easier terms to repay their loans and that compound interest should not be applied to their loans at a time when they are suffering losses. In addition, the farmers strongly hoped that the base price of sugar in crystals would be reviewed. In the same way, the concept of a 40:60 division of production needed to fit in with the steady increase in the prices of other agricultural inputs such as fertilizer and production tools.

5170

CSO: 4213/143

FOREIGN IMPORTERS' CLAIMS SAID BASED ON FEIGNED EXCUSES

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 29 Feb 84 p 7

[Text] The refusal of importers abroad to receive Indonesia's commodities they have ordered is often based on feigned excuses instead of mistakes made by Indonesian exporters and they usually make the claim when the price of the commodities concerned in the world market continues to drop.

This was stated by Prof. Dr. Suhadi Mangkusuwondo, head of Research and Development Board of the Trade Department, at a hearing with Parliamentary Commission X here recently.

The rejection of Indonesia's commodities already ordered by foreign importers abroad can be caused by the damage of the commodities concerned on the way to the destination countries or when they are unloaded at the port, or the sending of commodities not in accordance with the sample of the commodities concerned which have been examined in laboratories, he explained.

He disclosed that most of poor quality export commodities were produced by small producers or economically weak groups. Guidance and assistance are still needed to enable small scale producers to improve the quality of their products, so as to meet requirements forwarded by foreign buyers, he revealed.

Suhadi also disclosed on the occasion that the Research and Development Board of the Trade Department would in the 1984-85 fiscal year conduct research to explore the way for the improvement of the quality of non-oil/non-gas export commodities, such as plywood, textile/clothing, palm oil and rubber products, under the World Bank assistance.

The research activities will involve foreign experts which have the knowledge about requirements that must be fulfilled so as to make Indonesia's commodities more competitive in the world market, he said.

The Research and Development Board will also take steps as the follow up of the study of the improvement of quality for coffee, shrimp and spices launched by a team of the Food & Drug Administration of the United States. The effort to improve the quality of these products will be undertaken through pilot projects, he said.

Suhadi also mentioned non-economic competition Indonesian exporters had faced in the marketing of their products in foreign markets. In this connection, he pointed to protectionism systems implemented by European countries against products from the developing countries, with the increasing unemployment as an excuse.

He also stated that some European countries, such as Britain and French, had given special treatment to products from their former colonies in Africa, Caribia and the Pacific region. Indonesia, which does not belong to that group, has faced difficulties to compete with that group of countries in penetrating markets in certain countries.

He called for cooperation among Indonesian exporters in serving buyers in certain countries so as to strengthen their position in dealing with the buyers.

CSO: 4200/607

# STEPPED-UP EXPORTS TO WEST GERMANY, EEC EXPECTED

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 29 Feb 84 p 4

[Text] Economic cooperation between Indonesia and West Germany has so far run smoothly, but the two countries intend to further step up bilateral cooperation, this was disclosed here Monday by Minister/State Secretary Sudharmono SH after he attended the meeting between President Soeharto and visiting West German President Prof. Dr. Karl Carstens at the presidential palace here.

The enhancement of Indonesia's exports to West Germany in particular and the European Economic Community (EEC) in general is considered important for the improvement of people's welfare, according to the minister.

On the same day, Indonesian Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja and West German Minister of Economic Cooperation Dr. Juergen Wranke, respectively on behalf of the Indonesian and West German Governments, signed a document for the extension of a credit amounting to DM 100 million (US\$ 3.5 million) from West Germany to Indonesia under the Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia (IGGI) scheme. West German Ambassador to Indonesia Dr. Helmut Mathias also signed the document for the West German assistance.

The West German loan will be used to finance, among other things, the expansion of the telex networks for Jakarta, Bandung, Tanjungkarang, Telukbetung, Jayapura, Ambon, Palu and Manado.

According to Sudharmono, the two government leaders also stressed the importance of inter-regional cooperation between ASEAN and EEC, Indonesia and West Germany respectively have a very important role in ASEAN and EEC for the realization of the inter-regional cooperation.

At a state dinner held at the state palace here Monday President Soeharto stated that the Indonesian nation continued the struggle, amid the world economic recession, to create better life in the future. He pointed out that the result of development efforts in the first, second and third Repelita (five year development plan) was encouraging, despite the fact that hard years and ordeals had hindered the realisation of development programs.

President Karl Carstens stated on the occasion that it was necessary for all nations in the world to pay special attention to the joint efforts to overcome poverty and suffering. He also called for the reduction of armament.

The West Germany President invited President Soeharto to visit West Germany. The West German Head of State & entourage will leave here for home Wednesday after visiting several areas in Indonesia. Tuesday, the guests visited the Nurtanio air craft plant in Bandung. They visited the Borobudur temple on Sunday and the Serpong Puspitek (Centre for Scientific & Technological Research) on Monday.

CSO: 4200/607



## DEVELOPMENT OF IMPORTS

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 29 Feb 84 p 5

[Text] Indonesia's imports of goods have so far consisted of three groups, namely consumer goods, basic materials and capital goods. In the effort to maintain the momentum of development, the government has decided to reduce the import of consumer goods and to continue the import of basic materials as well as capital goods which have not been produced in the country.

Indonesia's imports of various products have tended to continue to go up since 1971. The import value was up from US\$ 1,102.8 million in 1971 to US\$ 1,561 million in 1972 and continued to go up to US\$ 10,834.4 million in 1980, US\$ 13,272.1 million in 1981 and US\$ 16,858.9 million in 1982. Provisional data show that it stood at US\$ 18,170.2 million in 1983.

The import of consumer goods was up and down from US\$ 210.2 million in 1971 rose to US\$ 251.8 million in 1972 and continued to go up to US\$ 1,543.4 million in 1980, but dropped to US\$ 1,393.7 million in 1981 and US\$ 1,259.8 million in 1982, and slightly increased to US\$ 1,345.8 million in 1983.

The import of basic materials tended to keep on increasing, from US\$ 428 million in 1971 to US\$ 4,807.7 million in 1980, US\$ 5,700.8 million in 1981 and US\$ 7,461.2 million in 1982, and is estimated to reach around US\$ 9,180.6 million in 1983.

The import of capital goods generally increased in the past years, reaching US\$ 464.5 million in 1971, up to US\$ 712.2 million in 1972 and continued to increase to US\$ 2,733.1 million in 1976, slightly down to US\$ 2,673.2 million in 1977, up again to US\$ 2,829.3 million in 1978, falling again to US\$ 2,691.9 million in 1979 and rising to US\$ 8,137.9 million in 1982. Provisional data show that the import of capital goods slightly dropped to US\$ 7,643.8 million last year.

CSO: 4200/607

# PETROKIMIA GRESIK TO EXPORT 100-150,000 TONS OF FERTILIZER

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 3 Jan 84 pp 1, 9

[Text] Gresik [East Java], KOMPAS--Dr Safaroeddin Sabar, president and director of PT Petrokimia Gresik, states that, beginning in January 1984 the company he heads will undertake the export of 100-150,000 tons of TSP [Triple Super Phosphate] and DAP [Di-Ammonium Phosphate].

The foreign sales of fertilizer will still be marketed in countries in the Asian area. Meanwhile, 1983 exports of fertilizer produced by Petrokimia Gresik totaled 14,000 tons, 5,000 tons of which were of TSP, while 9,000 tons were of DAP. Safaroeddin said: "This was sold to Hong Kong." Follow-up exports are planned to Bangladesh, Burma, and Malaysia.

Although Indonesian fertilizer exports last year went to Hong Kong, Safaroeddin is convinced that the fertilizer will be re-exported from that destination to other countries. However, he did not say to which countries.

After calculating total 1983 production on the evening of New Year's Day this year, the president and director of Petrokimia declared that the final production of TSP may have increased from 577,386 tons (1982) to 783,595 tons (1983). Meanwhile, the production of DAP, which was not targeted for export, reached 15,089 tons.

In that connection the production of ammoniac declined from 76,738,348 tons in 1982 to 72,119,879 tons in 1983. This was because in 1983 there was a major overhaul in the ammoniac catalizator which took 30 days to complete, whereas this job usually takes only 19 days.

Production of acid sulfate went up from 170,888,959 tons in 1982 to 171,724,604 tons in 1983. Hydrogen [ZA] production went down from 209,609 tons in 1982 to 208,620,740 tons in 1983. Urea production increased by 6,000 tons.

Safaroeddin said that farmers' needs for TSP fertilizer in 1983 had been satisfied. Indeed, there is excess productive capacity, which must be exported. Safaroeddin said: "That is why we must quickly find overseas markets."

## Farmers Know the "Cow" Trade Mark

Asked about the Petrokimia sack used for fertilizer previously imported from Turkey, Safaroeddin said this was to ensure that the sales of imported fertilizer would continue to go well and would be accepted by the farmers. Safaroeddin said: "Farmers are accustomed to TSP with the 'Cow' brand on the bag. That's the reason."

However, Safaroeddin, the president of Petrokimia Gresik, was not prepared to discuss the quality of the fertilizer imported from Turkey. He declared: "Oh, that is very relative."

5170

CS0: 4213/143

## BRIEFS

**FRETILIN GUERRILLAS SENTENCED**--Jakarta--The Court of "Justice" set up in Deli, capital of occupied East Timor, has sentenced 12 guerrillas of the Revolutionary Front for the Liberation of East Timor (FRETILIN) to terms of seven and eight years of imprisonment, according to the Indonesian information agency. This source reports that hundreds of individuals have also been detained by Indonesian occupation authorities since the resumption of hostilities by FRETILIN. During the past six months, the confrontations between the Indonesian army, which is estimated to consist of about 12,000 men, and the FRETILIN guerrillas have caused the deaths of hundreds of soldiers of the occupation regime, according to the estimates of diplomatic sources. Meanwhile, officers of the Indonesian army have recognized the fact that military operations in East Timor have become increasingly difficult due to the resulting action of FRETILIN, which is determined to continue the fight for liberation until the Indonesian forces have been driven out of the territory of Timor. Since the outbreak of military operations last October, the International Committee of the Red Cross has obtained guarantees of security in East Timor from the Indonesian authorities, although its members have been barred from visiting the prisons on the island of Atauro, off the coast of Deli. It should be recalled, however, that the UN continues its refusal to recognize the annexation of the former Portuguese colony by Indonesian authorities. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 27 Feb 84 p 12] 8089

**PLANNED RURAL ELECTRIFICATION IN PELITA IV**--The realisation of the rural electrification program in Pelita IV (1984-85 to 1988-89) is expected to cover around more 7,000 villages with about 1.6 million consumers. Cooperatives will be involved in the rural electrification program in the coming five-year period. Around 1,250 villages are expected to receive electricity supply with a total capacity of 50 MW through cooperatives and covering around 50,000 consumers in Pelita IV. The target of the rural electrification program in the coming five-year period consists of all self sufficient villages and the centres of sub-district administration all over the country. The realisation of the program is estimated to cover 8,300 villages till the end of Pelita III. [Text] [Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 29 Feb 84 p 8]

**EXPORTS OF NONOIL MINERALS**--Indonesia began exporting aluminum last year. In the first ten months of last year, Indonesia's exports of this mining product stood at US\$ 105 million. Copper ore is one of the main export commodities in the mining sub-sector. Indonesia's exports of copper ore dropped by 4.8% in value but increased by 23.6% in volume last year compared with those in the previous year. Indonesia's exports of non-oil/non-gas mining products were up by 33.1% in volume but down by 6.8% in value in the first ten months of 1983 compared with those in the corresponding period in the previous year, the available data show. [Text] [Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 29 Feb 84 p 3]

## COMMENTARY CONDEMNS U.S. ON ASEAN WEAPONS SALES

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 16 Feb 84 p 4

['Commentary' Column by V. Akkhalat: "Who Endangers ASEAN Nations?" Vientiane KPL English dated 16 Feb 84 published in FBIS Asia and Pacific DAILY REPORT 22 Feb 84]

[Text] Along with extensive arms sales including modern F 16 A 100 bombers for Thailand and other ASEAN nations, the Washington administration has tried everything possible to put pressure on and to drag the ASEAN nations into becoming military forces, e.g., by inducing Thailand to quickly join the orbit of its arms race in order to create a bellicose atmosphere and to increase tensions so as to allow the American imperialists to carry out collective military strategies in improving military bases and for distributing their forces in Asia and the Pacific. We all well know that as tensions began to ease in Southeast Asia because of the dream of the search for peace of the people in the area, the American imperialists and their henchmen became worried because the easing of tensions conflicted with their interests as a whole and with the collective plan of the American imperialists who wanted to maintain and strengthen their military bases in order to protect their own interests in Southeast Asia. For these reasons Washington has used many techniques and many ways to put pressure on the ASEAN nations and force them to accelerate their military forces. Another technique the American imperialists use is economic pressure, e.g., the U.S. investment in the ASEAN nations was over 10 billion dollars. The ASEAN nations are the fourth-largest customers of Washington next to the European Common Market, Japan, and Canada. This is a tool the United States uses on the ASEAN nations in order to force these countries under their command. Another way that Washington pressures the ASEAN nations is with military forces. This is because of its strong military bases in and around this area, e.g., in the Far East and in the Pacific.

The American imperialists have used their bases in this area along with the military forces of their henchmen in the area to apply military pressure in many ways, e.g., to reinforce and improve forces at each base around Southeast Asia, and to continually carry out military maneuvers demonstrating power in order to threaten the peace and stability of the area, the same as what they are doing now with South Korea. Moreover, Washington seeks to persuade its henchmen by spreading nonsense by saying "to resist the Communist threat," or "to resist the Vietnamese threat," etc. in order to induce their henchmen in



the area to put money into a military buildup or by asking them to buy weapons from Washington on credit, or else the United States will increase military aid to the countries that do follow its commands so the United States will have a chance to improve its military bases in this area and in other areas around the world where Washington has military bases. This is to put pressure on the ASEAN nations and to force them to travel the risky orbit of the Washington warlords in order to accelerate and steadily increase the assembling and installation of arms in those countries, and to lead the ASEAN nations in this area. However, the peace-loving nations in Southeast Asia and also throughout Asia and the Pacific will not let the American imperialists follow their dream, and will absolutely not let the ASEAN nations walk into danger or to follow the orbit of Washington. Of course, their ambition to be the world master in weapons must be punctured because the nations in this area as well as in other places around the world remember the harmful effects of WW II very well, e.g., the Hiroshima incident in 1945, and the more recent harmful effects from the most savage and destructive war of the American imperialists against the three nations in Indochina.

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CSO: 4206/89

SRV EXPERTS FETED ON TET

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 3 Feb 84 pp 1,2

/Text/ On the evening of 1 February in Vientiane Capital the Foreign Experts Management Department held a well-wishing ceremony for the SRV experts who had come to help the LPDR on the occasion of the New Year celebration (Tet) of the fraternal SRV.

The honored guests attending the ceremony were Mr Maisouk Saisompheng of the party Central Committee, minister of industry, handicrafts, and forestry, and chairman of the Laos-Vietnam committee for socioeconomic cooperation, along with vice-ministers and many invited guests from various sections.

Mr Nguyen Xuan, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, and Mr Dam Xuan Dung, economic advisor of the Vietnamese embassy in Laos honorably attended, along with the Vietnamese experts.

Mr Maisouk Saisompheng and Mr Nguyen Xuan took turns making speeches wholeheartedly congratulating the success of the economic construction achieved by the experts and technicians which has gradually raised the standard of living of the people.

Both of them wished the Lao and Vietnamese party and government leaders good health, sent warm and friendly regards to the experts' families, and wished the experts good health in order to continue and gloriously succeed in carrying out the lofty proletarian internationalism.

On this occasion Mr Maisouk Saisomphen and Mr Nguyen Xuan expressed their wish that military relations, the special solidarity, and the all-around cooperation between Laos and Vietnam and also between Laos, Vietnam, and Kampuchea, be forever stable and firm.

Later Mr Doung Xuan Chinh representing the Vietnamese thanked /the committee/ for the New Year Tet celebration in which he thought it was as enjoyable as in the SRV.

He also confirmed that he and the other experts will undyingly continue carrying out this honored duty assigned by the two parties and two governments in order to take part in making the great friendship, special militant solidarity, and all-around cooperation between Laos and Vietnam bear fruit forever.

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CSO: 4206/84

SANAN SOUTTHICHAK EULOGIZED, CAREER IN REVOLUTION DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Feb 84 pp 1,3

[Article: "Eulogy For Comrade Sanan Souththichak"]

[Text] My respects to the Buddhist clergy, respected party and government leaders, and [high-level] comrades and friends. On this occasion we have all gathered to commemorate and to pay our final homage to Mr Sanan Souththichak.

Comrade Sanan Souththichak was born in May 1920 in Ban Souvannakhili, Sansomboun District, Champassak Province, in a family of the capitalist class, and after he finished school he became a small merchant.

Comrade Sanan Souththichak joined the revolution on 9 December 1950 and became a party member in 1951. In 1952 he became party chapter secretary. In 1962 he was appointed alternate committee member of the party Central Committee, and was selected to be a central committee member by the 2nd party congress in early 1972. He was again selected to be a party Central Committee member by the 3rd party congress in April 1982.

In his life under the colonialist regime Comrade Sanan Souththichak became increasingly aware of the injustices of an administration that cruelly exploited the Lao people, resulting in his deep hatred of the enemies, and he decided to leave his family and his former occupation to join the revolution.

After he joined the revolution and because he had good decision-making ability and a high sense of responsibility, he was appointed to be assistance chairman and chairman of Lao Ngam District administrative committee from January 1951 to February 1953. He was appointed a committee member in the Lao Tai region. During this period he both fought the enemies and built up the forces, and also mobilized the masses and took part in constructing the revolutionary base in the Lao Tai region.

The period of fighting to carry out the Geneva agreement and to exercise national unity was the time when the imperialists became most

mad in searching out and suppressing to eliminate the former resistance. This was the time that he was appointed to build the base in Saravane Province. During this period he worked in c operation with other comrades and determinedly took part in mobilizing and encouraging the mass organization in this province and fighting the enemies in politics, along with intense fighting with weapons and setting conditions for the revolution to liberate an important region in the southern provinces of Laos.

In 1960 Comrade Sanan Souththichak moved up to the center responsible for propaganda and training until 1974, during which time as chief of the propaganda center committee members he had a significant part in building up the revolutionary forces.

Based on a change in the situation and to prepare for the uprising all over the nation, in early 1974 he was appointed to carry out a duty in the two neutral capitals (Vientiane and Luang Prabang) by working in cooperation with the committee. During that time he encountered the enemies legally, and also mobilized youth, students, intellectuals, and the people to rise up and overthrow the old regime in order to successfully replace it with the revolutionary regime in two districts.

On 2 December 1975 when the LPDR was established Comrade Sanan Souththichak was appointed minister of communications, public works, and transportation. The party and government also assigned him to be chairman of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions until early 1983, when he was assigned to go and build the grassroots in Attapeu Province.

A few months ago his health weakened, but he still determinedly and cheerfully worked and was always an active believer in the revolutionary victory, in himself, and in the party.

Although the party and government paid utmost attention and had the greatest concern for his health and sent him to be treated by doctors inside and outside the country, his disease became increasingly serious. His health declined rapidly, and he finally passed away on 4 February 1984 at 2115 in the central committee hospital in Vientiane Capital.

Dear comrades, [honored guests], and friends, Comrade Sanan Souththichak was a senior revolutionary. He began his duty with patriotism, hatred for the enemies, and by advancing towards Marxism-Leninism. In his life as a revolutionary he demonstrated his loyalty to the party, the nation, and to the people. He loved friends and assisted cadres of all levels and everyone. He was always pleasant and had the correct spirit of proletarian internationalism, e.g., in the special militant solidarity and all-around cooperation of Laos, Vietnam, and Kampuchea.

He was a revolutionary cadre who was responsible for his work, persistently enduring long-term difficulties over 30 years until his last breath. Before passing away, Comrade Sanan Souththichak still verbally regretted the work he had not yet finished, as befitting a good member of the party.



Dear Comrade Sanan Soutthichak, you have departed from us never to return. The party Central Committee, the government, party members, cadres, workers, and relatives and friends who are near and far along with the Vietnamese people have all gathered to commemorate and pay last homage to you.

Although you have departed from us, your fame and your good revolutionary work will be remembered in our hearts, and will continue to relate to the life of the nation and the revolutionary process of the Lao people of different ethnic groups.

Your irrevocable departure is the loss of a good revolutionary combatant from the ranks of the party and the revolution, for which we are all deeply sorrowful.

At this time, with deep sorrow we would like to bow our heads to commemorate and pay our last homage to you. Our wish is that your spirit go to heaven.

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CSO: 4206/84

## ARMY HOSPITAL 103 DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 10 Feb 84 p 2

[Article by S. Phanthavong: "The Spirit Of Hospital 103 Is More Beautiful Than A Jewel"]

[Text] "Health and peace are desirable for the people of the whole nation." When talking of this matter we are able to survey the smiles and voices of the doctors in Hospital 103 who are on duty to take care of wounded soldiers who are a strong wall defending the nation and the security of the people.

Hospital 103 is considered a large, national-level hospital consisting of 5 main sections: out-patient, in-patient, medical administration, dissemination, and logistics sections. It has 212 medical cadres including 27 high-level, 6 mid-level and 125 basic-level who are attentively treating soldiers and sick people with a high sense of responsibility, and are able to save a great many patients' lives which shows in the actual achievements. In 1983 they were able to cure 93.1 percent of 5,772 patients including 3,766 soldiers, 147 government officials, and 1,656 people including children.

In the matter of helping patients in a timely manner and to facilitate patients they divided up the cadres and government employees to meet patients in a timely manner, e.g., generally there are 2 high-level and 2 mid-level and basic-level doctors on duty at the entrance. Each day there are at least 25 comrades on duty. For a patient in serious condition who needs an operation, it will take only three hours from when the patient enters the hospital door and is examined and operated on. They must do this serious duty morning, evening, and late at night. When a patient is in pain they help him in a timely manner. Although there are few medical doctors, the hospital is large. For those who are seriously sick they put all their efforts into helping to save the lives of all the people who come to this hospital for treatment. They are all given good assurance by the medical cadres. All cadres consider the patients as if they were their own parents. Along with specialized tasks in the hospital they also arrange for cadres to go to help other base-level doctors. By clearly understanding their own duty and also their duty to the nation, the people in the hospital are all united in persistence with the organization and struggle to carry out their duty, and are active in increasing production so they can become self-sufficient.

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CSO: 4206/89

## PAKSE HOSPITAL CAPABILITIES DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 10 Feb 84 pp 3-4

[Article by S. Malathong: "One Year In Pakse Hospital"]

[Excerpt] Pakse Hospital is a big hospital in Champassak Province consisting of 12 main sections: routine examination, in-patient, pediatrics, obstetrics, out-patient, traditional, dentistry, ear, nose, throat and eye care, and the x-ray and film sections. There are 248 beds with over 150 doctors. The treatment capability is gradually rising. In 1983 which was the period of the implementation of the third year of the first 5-year plan of the government, all the doctors determinedly and unyieldingly carried out their own specialized task in treatment and in taking care of patients. This is considered participation in the transformation and construction of the economy and culture, and a response to the resolution of the third congress of the party Central Committee which considers disease prevention as important and primary treatment that has helped to gradually decrease different diseases.

According to Dr Toukhan of the board of directors of this hospital, the 1983 achievements of Pakse Hospital are: examined a total of 23,669 patients; accepted a number of patients into the hospital, and cured 6,150 patients. In the out-patient section, major operations were performed on 54 patients, and there were 170 medium and 1,140 minor operations. The pediatric section treated a total of 1,140 patients. The obstetrics accepted 612 patients for treatment including 13 major and 17 medium operations, and helped in 255 childbirths. The dentistry section examined and treated 2,120 patients. The ear, nose and throat section examined and treated 560 patients. The ophthalmology section examined and treated 2,194 patients. The analytical section examined 23,321 blood samples and did 14 chemical analyses. Besides treating diseases with regular medicines, they also carried out a policy of reinforcing traditional medicines for treatment. In that year the medical cadres in the traditional medicine section effectively used a great deal of traditional medicines in treatment in Pakse Hospital and, e.g., cured 141 patients, examined and mixed medicines for patients 2,789 times, produced pediatric 27,100 tablets, mixed 7,200 cc of liquid medicines, 2500 cc of liniment 4,638 times for traditional medicines of 483 kinds and 3.446 kg.

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CSO: 4206/89

# SCHOOL GETS USSR INTEREST-FREE LOAN

Vientiane PASASOW in Lao 9 Feb 84 p 2

/Article by Van Pheng and Daovieng Boutnakho: "Initial Steps in Polytechnical School Construction"/

/Text/ A new and exciting phenomenon that we should be proud of in the Sok Pa Louang area southeast of Vientiane Capital is the construction of a polytechnical school.

A polytechnical school is a vocational school with many fields of specialized tasks. In the future when the construction has been completed it will become the heart of socialist education and will have a beneficial effect on production, construction of the economy, handicrafts, and socialist industry which are being expanded now as well as in the future according to the slogan "to construct a socialist economy we must have socialist education."

Construction of a four-story house for a teachers' residence has been completed. From there as you look out over the large construction area you will see school buildings, laboratories, workshops, dormitories, and a collective kitchen which are now taking shape.

Comrade Fong Vongsai, the chief who is responsible for Construction Company No 22, recalled part of the history of the school construction project. The Pa Sok Louang polytechnical school construction project got started in March 1981 with an interest-free loan from the USSR in cooperation with the LPDR Ministry of Handicrafts, Industry, and Forestry. The school construction is being continued and contracted by Construction Company 22 of Housing Construction Enterprise 02 under the National Construction Company.

In 1981 and 1982 the construction was seven percent completed with additional funding valued at 30 million kip.

Now 27 percent of the construction plan has been completed with a total value of 37 million kip.

There are 250 workers who are constructing this polytechnical school including 17 women and 233 men, one full high-level, five high-level equivalents, 23 mid-level and 12 mid-level equivalents, and 44 basic-level workers. There is also a number of Soviet experts.

Now they are emulating each other in everything in order to score achievements for International Labor Day on 1 May, the 29th anniversary of the founding of the party, and the coming 9th anniversary of LPDR Day.

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CSO: 4206/84



## LPA PHARMACEUTICAL FACTORY PRODUCTION DETAILED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Feb 84 p 2

/Article by Saitavingnan: "LPA Pharmaceutical Plant 104 Makes Progress"/

/Text/ Construction of LPA Pharmaceutical Plant 104 started on 19 January 1979. Since it was built the factory has been supported by the Ministry of National Defense, the General Logistics Department, and the medical department along with the guidance of the factory party chapter and the cadres and combatants in the factory who have united together and decided to endure different difficulties, score achievements, and Promote the fine heritage of the LPA. They have been able to score tremendous achievements. In 1979 which was the first year, the cadres and combatants in LPA Pharmaceutical Plant 104 dug up a total of 23,174 kg of various types of traditional medicines, produced 1,284,292 medicine tablets, 6,640 liters of alcohol and bitter herb tonic, and 182 liters of liquid medicines. Production increased in 1980 because of their efforts. They produced a total of 4,424 million medicine tablets, 9,440 liters of tonic, and 2,907 liters of liquid medicines. In 1981, in response to the needs of cadres and workers in the army and the people throughout and because of the enthusiasm of the workers they were able to dig up 32,164 kg of raw materials, and produced 6,599,542 tablets of medicine and 19,480 liters of supplementary tonic. To fulfill the government's first 5-year plan especially the 1983 plan, last year the workers together decided to put their sweat, energy, and ability into production by hurriedly producing primarily antimalarial and intestinal medicines. Thus, in 1983 they were able to dig up a total of 31,827 kg of raw materials to produce all kinds of medicines, and produced a total of 24,318,900 tablets of medicines, 2,514,339 liters of tonic, and 3,120 liters of liquid medicines. Captain Khamphon, chief of the factory board of directors, told our reporters that the factory produces a total of twenty kinds of medicines and emphasized the rapid production of antimalarial and intestinal medicines. Whenever we are not producing we mobilize and emphasize secondary work, e.g., increasing production and animal husbandry. In the past we grew one hectare of tobacco for supplying the factory and two hectares of rice for medicine production. We also raised animals, e.g., 25 cattle, 25 buffalo, and 570 poultry. Especially to celebrate the recent 35th anniversary of LPA Day, we opened a short-term emulation from the beginning to the 10th of January,

produced a total of over four million tablets of medicines, more than the total for 1979, and 740 containers of balm, 54 kg of "fongkansi" and 1,275 liters of all kinds of tonics. In order to promote the spirit of 10 January, the 35th anniversary of LPA Day, the cadres and combatants in LPA Pharmaceutical Plant 104 actively emulated each other in order to attain a new and bigger victory and to take an important part in improving and constructing the LPA to become a truly systematized and modern army to efficiently carry out their duty to defend our socialist country.

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CSO: 4206/84

## ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION FOR 1983, SALES ABROAD

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 15 Feb 84 pp 1, 4

[Article: "1983 Electricity Production 4.02 Percent More Than Expected"]

[Text] On the occasion of the 1983 annual report of the Lao State Electrification Enterprise under the Ministry of Industry, Handicrafts, and Forestry which was held on the afternoon of 11 February 1984, Mr Khammon Phonkeo, chief of the Lao State Electrification Enterprise, told us that in the last 1-year period our company was able to produce a total of 833,337,500 kWh of electricity, exceeding the plan by 4.02 percent. This included 102.34 percent of the plan for distribution abroad, and 112.7 percent for domestic distribution. Our Lao workers also completed inspecting and repairing generators No 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the Nam Ngum hydroelectric power works as planned. They also outstandingly ensured technical aspects, especially repairs of turbines 3 and 4 which were completed exceeding the plan, guaranteed well. This saved 71,000 dollars of government money.

The company also cut machine down-time by 50 percent. They completely inspected and repaired the 115 kW transmissions line from the Nam Ngum hydroelectric plant to Phon Tong and Tha Naleng as planned, inspected and maintained medium voltage line exceeding the plan by 121 percent, repaired 6 stations to ensure service and regular electric power distribution, inspected and repaired low-voltage electric systems, distribution boxes, and also protected a total of 128 transformers, replaced 273 electric poles with cement ones, changed 2,110 twenty kW medium insulators, and replaced 52 small transformers with large units. Concerning the cooperation and service for different sections, Mr Khammon Phonkeo said that we have expanded the medium-voltage 22 kW and low-voltage electricity network, as planned in one project. We were also able to carry out 16 projects including installing electricity in 7 water pumping stations, 9 factories, and 6,245 people's houses for use or 178.4 percent of the plan, inspecting 9,158 electric meters, completing 70 percent of installing electricity in the satellite ground station, and in the Phon Soung electric station, Phon Hong District, by 60 percent, installing electricity and repairing public lighting at 633 places or 70 percent of the plan, and installing 1,192 new electric meters of different sizes. They also sent specialized task cadres to collect data and to install and repair [generators] in different provinces where they gradually achieved results. They also carried out other work as planned.

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CSO: 4206/89

# NAM NGUM BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS NOTED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 7 Feb 84 pp 2,3

/Article by Ket Meuang: "A Gift For The First of May"/

/Text/ When we reached the Nam Ngum Bridge construction area more than 60 km east of Vientiane Capital the scene that caught our eyes was the bridge crossbeam which gracefully extended from the end of the bridge, its left resting on the top of the fourth bridge pier, and having a slogan written on it in neat red letters saying, "for 1984 traffic on the bridge."

This beautiful scene is another symbol confirming the cooperation between Lao and Soviet workers and technicians in the construction of the Nam Ngum Bridge which is one of the strategic bridges that will be progressing to victory in a short time. The long-term hope of the people in this area is becoming reality.

The bridge construction started in early 1981 and it is now 80 percent complete, including 100 percent completion of all five bridge supports. The 205-meter bridge crossbeam was constructed and placed onto the third support, completing 84 meters. Concrete was poured to prevent collapsing and to resist erosion by the river for over 400 square meters, which was not an easy thing to do, e.g., each stone and each grain of sand had to be transported many tens of kilometers, and even heavier items such as cement, steel rods, steel sheets, and some construction equipment weighing over 20 tons had to be transported over a thousand kilometers from the Port of Danang on remote routes passing across mountains and streams.

Comrade Linseng Thomgmanila, technical chief of the Nam Ngum Bridge construction who has been on this construction project since 1980 when they were constructing houses for the workers of this construction company, began by telling us that now, besides transporting different construction materials and equipment, at the present time there are also three big projects that over 260 Lao workers and technicians are hurriedly working on in cooperation with friendly Soviet technicians. These projects are the construction of the bridge crossbeam, putting the crossbeam in, and producing concrete pieces and paving concrete

in order to prevent collapsing and to resist erosion by the water. All of these are expected to be completed before this 1 May, International Labor Day, and to be in normal operation this coming June.

When the committee went to visit and inspect the actual construction work at the site on 1 February 1984 Mr Bounphan Vilachit, assistant chief of the accounting department in the office of the Council of Ministers, assessed the achievement of the bridge construction up to now by saying that it is a victory surpassing the plan and primary expectation which was for completion in late 1984. This was because of the decision of all the workers and engineers to speed up the expected rate of construction, and besides responding to the urgent needs it is also implementing plenums 3, 4, and 5 of the third session of the party Central Committee. These achievements will also be a gift for International Labor Day, the 29th anniversary of the founding of the party, and the coming 9th LPDR National Day.

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where it was inadvertently placed  
under VIETNAM category.

LAOS

#### LPA OFFICERS PROFILED, CONDITIONS OF SERVICE NOTED

Hanoi 'QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Jan 84 p 3

[Article by Ha Pham Phu: "On 35th Anniversary of Lao People's Army, Meeting Rear Services Soldiers of the Lao People's Army"]

[Text] Major Somuang, Director of the Hat Xiu State Farm, gestured broadly with his hands as he spoke to us of the piece of land before us that was originally a thick bamboo forest. In April 1978, a group of army cadres was sent to this plot of ground not far from Vientiane with 150 soldiers of the old regime to develop a state farm for raising rice and sugarcane with gradual progress toward self-sufficiency. During a period of 5 years, the number of state farm members has risen to 310 and 90 percent have established families with an abundance of children: 707, requiring the Level I school of the state farm to have six grades taught in two shifts.

Although equipped with an extremely small amount of machinery resulting in primarily manual labor operation, the state farm has completed and exceeded rice area plans by 20 percent. In 1982, the state farm produced enough to support itself for 6 months. This year, total self-sufficiency is possible.

Originally an operations bureau chief and later commander of the 15th Battalion in Khammouan Province, Somuang encountered not a few difficulties when placed in charge of the state farm. He related, "In 1975, I was given responsibility for a camp to transform 2,000 former puppet soldiers in Khammouan and was later assigned to establish a state farm. Entering the army in 1953 and fighting continuously in my home province, I had heard about state farms but of what to do and how to begin I actually had no idea. However, I knew my political mission and I knew the job of a farmer. Therefore, when I was assigned the mission of establishing a state farm, I accepted it with both my bare hands. At that time I was responsible for establishing the Na Cay State Farm in Khammouan. In order to succeed and to engage in business, capital is needed but where could capital be acquired? I ran to the provincial party committee and the provincial committee and finally was able to borrow 3 million kip. We bought tools, seed and seedlings and worked to support ourselves and pay our bills. We both worked and gained experience. Our Na Cay State Farm stood strongly. After a period of cultural study, I was appointed the director of Hat Xiu State Farm. We will now further expand the area for raising sugarcane to about 100 hectares, dig an additional 50 ponds for raising fish, strengthen the arts and letters unit and the soccer and volley-ball teams and build a child care center, and are determined to raise the income of the state farm member higher than it is at the present time (now about 482 kip monthly, not counting productivity awards)."



I asked Somuang about the situation of the 150 soldiers from the old regime who were first brought to the state farm. He stated that they generally worked fairly well or in other words, the work improved them. A number returned to Vientiane to engage in other trades while the majority remained to build the state farm; Somuang pointed out a sunburned cadre and introduced him as a first lieutenant of the former Vientiane army who had recently, in April 1983, been appointed as the planning office chief. His name was Khamdi.

Khamdi told us that under the old regime, he earned about 20,000 old kip and although he was well to do, he had no freedom. Now, the average monthly income of a member of his family is 150 kip and although short of money, his mind has been liberated and his life is comfortable. Khamdi has one child studying a trade in the Democratic Republic of Germany.

Such is the marvel of the revolution, not only to train directors like Somuang but also with full capabilities to change individuals into new men like Khamdi.

The director of the Vientiane Army Sewing Plant is Captain Maichan. Her work history, as related by her, can be recorded in a truly brief manner: 44 years old, she entered the army in 1954 and served as a cook. In 1958, she served on the Vietnamese-Lao border. In 1961, she was secretary of the Ky Son District Women's Association and in 1967 was political officer of Phou Kout Hospital. In 1969, she worked in the policy bureau of the Xieng Khouang Provincial Military Agency and in 1976 served as the deputy director of the Xieng Khouang Provincial Military Agency sewing plant. In 1980, she worked in the General Directorate of Rear Services and 1983 was responsible for political work in the Vientiane Army Sewing Plant. She is now the director.

Although only recently assuming responsibility for the sewing plant, Maichan has a firm grasp of the situation. She said that before liberation, this sewing plant had about 100 workers, primarily sewing parachutes for the former Vientiane army. Since liberation, the plant has rapidly developed and the number of workers has risen to more than 400. The number of sewing machines has risen from 70 to 300. Besides manufacturing a number of other military items for the Lao People's Army, the sewing plant has also made nearly 10,000 uniforms of various types for the Kampuchean revolutionary army. By November, the sewing plant had achieved 137.15 percent of the planned level and earned 61,863,231 kip.

Major General Nakhon Sisanon, Director of the General Directorate of Rear Services, praised the cadres and workers of the sewing plant for their high spirit of service in answering every requirement put forth by the army.

At the Vientiane Army Sewing Plant, we also met Deputy Director Bun Thoong, creator of the uniforms worn by cadres and soldiers in winter as well as in summer. Uncle Souliphan, a skilled 35 year old level 7 craftsman, left a shop in Luang Prabang Province to work in the sewing plant, specializes in cutting and sewing uniforms for high level officers, regularly exceeds his quota and receives piecework wages, averaging from 2,500 to 3,000 kip monthly. Among the young workers in the plant is Chanseun, a level 4 tailor who was recently

admitted to the Lao Revolutionary People's Party in June 1983. Chanseun participates in a fairly large number of social assignments involving youth, women and the trade union and although fairly busy, constantly has high productivity and earns more than 1,500 kip monthly, nearly five times the nominal wage.

Captain Maichan told us that the plant still has many difficulties in setting labor quotas and in organizing the lives of nearly 400 women with and without families. However, the cadres and workers are fully united, have a seething revolutionary spirit and surely these difficulties cannot hinder their progress toward becoming a model sewing plant.

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CSO: 4209/168

## BRIEFS

**KHONG DISTRICT AGRICULTURE, POPULATION**--Khong District is one of ten districts in Champassak Province. It has 3,400 square kilometers, including over 15,190 hectares of cultivation area. It consists of 13 cantons, with 8 cantons on Don Island and 5 on the eastern shore. It has 131 villages, 10,853 families and a population of 55,678. Throughout the district there is a total of 13,561.32 hectares of cultivation area with a production capacity of 1.8 tons per hectare on the average, and a total production of 24,410.37 tons or 438 kg per capita per year on the average. Co-op construction which is an excellent base of the socialist economy has been steadily expanded. Throughout the district there are now 75 co-op units and 18,812 personnel, and 2,776 families have joined co-ops, or 25.57 percent. There are 4,573.89 hectares of ricefields or 33.72 percent of the total cultivation area, including 2,346 hectares of ricefields that were transferred by the right of collective mastery to the co-ops. Concerning trade and raising the standard of living of the people of ethnic groups, industrial goods are valued at 29,671,488 kip, an increase by a factor of two when compared with that for 1981. There are 29 state and collective stores including 1 state store, 6 collective stores and 15 co-ops. They were able to purchase 4891 tons of rice and 21,042.5 kg of forest and ricefield products from the people, resulting in steady progress in the standard of living of the cadres, government employees, and the people. There is one district hospital with 50 beds, 13 canton health units with a total of 46 medical cadres, 4 traditional medicine men, 132 [village medicine men], and 952 health combatants. They trained 37 co-op medical doctors, and sprayed 24,580 houses with DDT for malaria suppression. A great deal of traditional medicines were used for effective treatment along with regular medicines on a broad scale. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 11 Feb 84 p 2] 9884

**BORDER POPULATION, SECURITY**--Soukhouma District in Champassak Province is in the southernmost part of the country. It has approximately 120,800 square kilometers consisting of 6 cantons, 59 villages, and approximately 29,339 people. In the past 3 years, in national defense and security, although this district was an outpost it built up all conditions and conveniences for the people to make a living. Its military and security forces have been growing and are strong in every way, and are able to protect the land. For the 1983 transformation and economic construction there were 8,719 hectares of wet rice cultivation area, an increase of 2,425 hectares or 2.63 percent when compared with that for 1981-82. This included 3,153 hectares of ricefields of the first category with a capacity of 2 tons per hectare, 3,854 hectares of the second

category, and 1,711.81 hectares of the third category. Production was 503 kg per capita on the average. Throughout the district there is a total of 30 agricultural co-ops, an increase of two units when compared with that for 1981-82. There were 926 families that joined co-ops, an increase of 130 or 16.33 percent, and the total number of co-op members of 6,140 people exceeded that for 1981-82 by 910 people or 10.92 percent of the district population. Public health has also progressed. There is one district hospital with 20 beds. [The people of ethnic groups in this district] have improved and strengthened national defense and security, and have carried out the resolution of economic and cultural grassroots construction to increase expansion, to bring happiness and prosperity to themselves, and to build up Soukhouna District in every way. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 14 Feb 84 p 2] 9884

CHAMPASSAK ROAD WORK--In early February Comrade Sounthon Thep Asa, member of the party Central Committee and party secretary of the Champassak provincial party committee, encouraged the cadres and workers in the Road Construction Company of Champassak Province who are working on Route 20 in the Nong Soung Canton area, Bachiang Chaleunsouk, Champassak Province. This route which is over 60 km long from Km 11 to Ban Keng Keuy, Nong Soung Canton, and which has been under repair and construction, is now mostly finished. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 16 Feb 84 pp 1-2] 9884

DANANG PORT WORKERS--Speaking of the over 100 Lao cadres and workers who are working in the office of the Lao delegation in Quang Nam--Dannang Province, SRV, there are 19 women who are working actively side by side in all the work sections. Comrade Mrs Toi Phanmani, secretary of the Lao Women's Association in the Lao office, told us that they have been working side by side with men in receiving and sending goods from ships. They both work and learn on the job from the neighboring Vietnamese who have been giving them assistance and cooperation. The Lao women are now used to the shipping port and the seashore, resulting in a steady increase in the shipping of goods from the port. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 16 Feb 84 p 2] 9884

POWDERED COFFEE PRODUCTION--In 1983 the workers in the powdered coffee plant under the industry, handicrafts, and forestry section, Vientiane Capital, actively emulated each other to score achievements. In the 1-year work period they produced 8 tons and 397 kg of assorted powdered coffee, including 3 tons and 837 kg of the 2-percent powdered coffee and 4 tons and 559 kg of special powdered coffee. Now the workers are continually and cheerfully carrying out the first quarter plan of the 4th and 5th year plans of the government in order to score achievements for the Vientiane Capital Lao Women's Patriotic Association. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 11 Feb 84 pp 1, 4] 9884

SAYABOURY ROAD CONSTRUCTION--In order to implement the fifth plenum of the third session of the party Central Committee to become reality, and especially to make communications a spearhead, since early January 1984 cadres and workers in the machinery section under the agricultural, irrigation, and agricultural cooperatives section in Sayaboury Province have put their efforts into clearing a new road from Sayaboury to Hongsa Districts, which has now been 25 percent completed. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 7 Feb 84 p 1] 9884

SAVANNAKHET ELECTRIFICATION--In order to gradually provide electricity and progress to rural areas according to the rural construction policies set by the party, and to bring them to reality, the Lao State Electrification Enterprise hurriedly sent its cadres, engineers, and workers to bring electricity to rural areas of Savannakhet Province, especially for phase one of the project from Savannakhet to Outhoumphon District which was gloriously completed on 27 January 1984 after having been under construction since July 1981. During this period they built an electric station in Savannakhet and installed a 22 kilovolt line 55 km from Savannakhet to Outhoumphon, from the station to the substation and Savannakhet's electric transformer center, and installed electric wiring in six villages. They installed transformers in 13 different locations in Outhoumphon District and in several areas in Savannakhet District, completed building 15 km of a low-voltage network system, installed a total of 70 sets of street lights, and completed the construction of an equipment warehouse and houses for cadres and workers. This project used a total of 1,045 cement poles and 286,359 meters of different electric wires. Now the workers are actively emulating each other to score achievements for International Labor Day this coming 1 May. /Text/ /Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Feb 84  
p 1,2/ 9884

CSO: 4206/84



EDITORIAL VIEWS BARISAN'S VICTORY IN SARAWAK ELECTION

Infighting Viewed

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 31 Dec 83 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] After 21 days of intense and exciting electioneering, the election for the Fourth Sarawak State Assembly, which resulted in the Barisan Nasional's decisive victory and return to power, was brought to a satisfactory close.

As indicated by the result of the general elections of April 1982, the Barisan Nasional [National Front] government under the leadership of Prime Minister Mahathir has again won the great confidence of the people in the Sarawak State Assembly election. To the Mahathir government, which has just resolved the constitutional amendment crisis, its Sarawak victory is a happy event, like "adding lowers to the brocade."

During the election, however, an internal crisis cropped up within the Barisan's member parties, which serves as a severe test to the Barisan's concepts. How this problem is to be solved in the wake of the election is bound to influence the Barisan's future. That's why this issue is drawing great public attention.

As a matter of fact, since the split in the Sarawak National Party (SNAP) last July and the formation of the Sarawak Dayaks Party by Datuk Leo Moggie, the Barisan Nasional in Sarawak has been placed in an ambivalent position. On the one hand, Datuk Moggie is a minister in the central government; on the other hand, SNAP firmly objects to the Dayaks Party [Parti Bangsa Dayak Sarawak, PBDS] being admitted into the Barisan Nasional. This situation has put Datuk Abdul Taib Mahmud, Sarawak's chief minister and Barisan chairman, in a dilemma.

The infighting within the parties spread out during the electioneering period and turned ugly. Although the party banner of the Barisan Nasional appeared in 32 electoral districts, both SNAP and the Dayaks Party put out their respective banners in 14 electoral districts in a show of confrontation. Furthermore, two SNAP candidates were involved in a fist fight with a candidate of the Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu [PBB] and a candidate of the Sarawak United People's Party [SUPP].



This internecine feud obviously prompted Datuk Abdul Taib Mahmud to come out and back the Dayaks Party openly; he publicly chided SNAP for having dispatched 13 independent candidates in an attempt to "topple" the Barisan and called on his supporters to cast their votes for the Dayaks Party in the electoral districts under contention between the Dayaks Party and SNAP.

On the eve of the voting, Datuk Taib even announced that after the election is over, he will think of a way to let the Dayaks Party join the Barisan.

This clear-cut attitude indicates that Datuk Taib plans to ignore SNAP's record in the election and that he firmly supports the Dayaks Party in its dispute with SNAP.

It's not without reason that Datuk Taib has decided to be on the side of the Dayaks Party. In the first place, he wants this party to have a certain representation in the Barisan. Second, the candidates put up by SNAP for the specific motive of challenging the PBB and the SUPP obviously tarnished the prestige of the Barisan. As the Barisan's leader in Sarawak, Datuk Taib must uphold fairness.

What the people want to know now is: What course will SNAP follow?

What has attracted the attention of the Chinese community is that the decisive battle between the United People's Party and the Democratic Action Party resulted in the latter suffering a crushing defeat. Apparently this ending was a repeat of the general elections of April 1982.

#### Comments on Barisan's Retaining Power

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 31 Dec 83 p 2

[Text] The people of Sarawak have cast their sacred votes for the election of their 48 representatives to the State Legislative Assembly, which resulted in the Barisan Nasional retaining power in Sarawak.

In the election, the Barisan coalition candidates were fighting to get 32 seats, and already won 26 seats by 1 pm yesterday, including 16 seats for the PBB and 10 others for SUPP. Besides, 16 other seats were under contention between SNAP and the PBDS, each flying its own party banner, which resulted in SNAP winning 6 seats and the PBDS 5 seats, with the remaining 4 seats garnered by independent candidates. Both the Democratic Action Party [DAP] and the Democratic United Party were totally defeated.

The PBB, a member of the Barisan coalition, entered 20 candidates into the election contest and scored brilliant results. The party's chairman and concurrently Sarawak's chief minister, Datuk Taib, scored a decisive victory by getting 3,720 votes in the Sebedi constituency, defeating an independent candidate named Bujang Baka by 2,314 votes.

The Sarawak United People's Party fought a good, winning battle by clobbering DAP ignominiously in the Chinese electoral district. In a certain constituency

near Kuching, SUPP's Song Sui Guan, chairman of the Kuching Municipal Assembly, defeated DAP's able candidate and "strongman," Sim Kuan Ying, with his plural vote of 3,544.

In Maling constituency, SUPP's secretary general, Datuk Wong Soon Kai, also beat Lim See Beng, secretary general of Sarawak DAP, with his plural vote of 16,220. In the 1982 general elections Lim defeated Datuk Wong by a little over 100 votes.

Judging by the two SUPP victories, it can be seen that the political concept of the Sarawak Chinese is that Parliament needs opposition parties but that state assemblies need ruling parties.

In addition, in the Hupo electoral district, SUPP's Tay Lun Kee trounced Teo Siu Kong, Sarawak DAP chairman, with a plural vote of 727 votes. This was an upset, for before the votes were cast, most people had thought that Teo had a better chance of winning the contest.

In this state election, SUPP stressed the "importance of Chinese participation in politics." It appears that this slogan was favorably accepted by the Sarawak Chinese. DAP failed to give a good performance because it put too much emphasis on language and cultural problems in its election campaign.

SNAP, a member of the Barisan coalition, had its vitality badly sapped in this election. It contested in 16 constituencies but got less than 6 seats. In Tatau constituency, its treasurer, Tan Lian Khiao, was narrowly defeated by an independent candidate named Bohassah, who was fully backed by the Dayaks Party, by 354 votes. As for its chairman, Datuk James Wong, he could only defeat Dayak's candidate Christopher by a mere 454 votes in the Limbang constituency. Datuk James Wong collected 3,399 votes, while Christopher got 2,945 votes.

The score of the Dayaks Party in this election was below public expectations. However, compared with SNAP's record, it stands a much better chance of being accepted as a member of the Barisan coalition. As it already enjoys the support of the PBB, it is believed that it will become a Barisan member party soon.

The Dayaks Party is made up of people which deserted the SNAP last July and is led by Datuk Leo Moggie, minister of energy, telecommunications and posts.

9300

CSO: 4205/36

DEPUTY EDUCATION MINISTER ASSURES NO SHORTAGE OF CHINESE TEACHERS

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 27 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] Datuk Dr Tan Tiong Hong, deputy education minister, declared today that when schools reopen next year, there will no longer be a shortage of Chinese primary school teachers in the Federal Territory and Selangor State.

Refuting a certain Chinese newspaper report to the effect that "there will be fewer pupils entering the Grade I class of Chinese primary schools in the Federal Territory next school year, a red light for mother-tongue education," the deputy minister said that the paper was "saying frightening things just to raise an alarm."

He told reporters that the reduced number of pupils entering Chinese primary schools in the Federal Territory next year does not signal a danger to Chinese-language education but is caused by the following factors:

- The Education Ministry strictly forbids pupils living in Selangor to go to schools located in the Federal Territory, and
- The number of pupils entering school this year is the highest in the past 10 years; therefore, by comparison, the number of new students for next year appears relatively low.

According to the Federal Territory Bureau of Statistics, the total number of new students to be admitted to the 40 Chinese primary schools located in the Federal Territory next year will be 8,443, down by 922 compared with this year's 9,365.

Datuk Dr Tan explained that as the Federal Territory has many well-known schools, parents living in Selangor prefer to send their children to the said schools despite their relative distance from the Selangor schools. Beginning next year, the Education Ministry will strictly forbid Selangor children from entering Federal Territory schools. Therefore, the number of pupils studying in the Chinese primary schools located in the Federal Territory will drop.

In addition, new pupils entering the first grade this year were born in the Year of the Dragon. According to Chinese traditional belief, children born

in the Dragon year are comparatively more clever and quick-witted. That's why many couples are determined to give birth of a baby during this propitious year, and indeed more Chinese children were born in the Dragon year than in any other animal zodiac year. That's also why many more children entered school this year than next year.

This theory was confirmed by Choo Chee Beng, principal of the Kuala Lumpur Ming Choong Primary School. He said: "This year the number of new pupils registered in my school hit a record high for the past 5 years. The reduction in the number of next year's new pupils has nothing to do with mother-tongue education. It's mainly because of this Chinese concept."

He figured that a drop of 922 new students is not serious and not worth exaggerating.

Tang Lee Poh, principal of the Kuala Lumpur Lee Ming Primary School, said: "Judging by the situation in our school, the number of pupils will not drop; in fact, we may have a 100-percent enrollment. Everyday we have parents coming here to request admission for their children, but our school cannot accept so many applicants."

He pointed out that in the past, Chinese parents thought that going to an English school augured well for the future. However, as English schools have been transformed into national schools, children who originally intended to go to English schools were transferred to Chinese schools. Moreover, more and more Chinese parents believe that their children should learn their mother tongue before any other language, and therefore the number of Chinese primary-school pupils will not decrease.

Touching on the problem of teachers, Datuk Dr Tan said that to resolve the shortage, the Education Ministry will assign 90 and 190 qualified teachers who have just completed a teachers training course to the Chinese primary schools located in the Federal Territory and Selangor State, respectively.

In addition, the deputy education minister indicated that all temporary teachers were retained and promised to give them training.

He divulged that many people have applied to become temporary teachers, adding that they are qualified as such and that if a number of Chinese primary schools are still short of teachers, the Education Ministry will assign them to teach there.

9300

CSO: 4205/36

# OBJECTION TO GOVERNMENT PLAN TO ABOLISH DIESEL OIL SUBSIDY

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 30 Dec 83 p 2

[Commentary: "Diesel Oil Subsidy Cannot Be Abolished"]

[Text] According to reports, it is possible that starting next month the government will abolish the diesel oil subsidy altogether, thereby saving an expenditure of M\$1.2 billion per year.

This government measure is adopted, as gasoline prices drop, in order to prevent a big rise in the diesel oil price. At the same time the authorities are also taking other steps, helping fishermen and other diesel oil users offset the diesel oil price hike by offering them direct aid, such as supplying credits for machinery and equipment or drawing up a new scheme for diesel oil subsidy.

At present, the proportion of diesel oil users among enterprises throughout the land is as follows: fishermen, 1 percent; farmers, 2 percent; transportation enterprises, 24 percent; and industries, more than 50 percent.

If this government plan to abolish diesel oil subsidy is carried out, it will cause a serious chain reaction and particularly effect our industries, which eventually will bring harm to consumers. This would be like "pulling one hair and the whole body is affected." Consequently, before adopting this action, the government must give careful consideration in order to prevent the unnecessary vicious circle.

As we understand it, our tin mines have been compelled by prevailing circumstances to reduce production days and hours aimed at maintaining their survival and forestalling their bankruptcy. This kind of operation is already affecting the incomes of tin mine workers, and their livelihoods, too. If the government abolishes the diesel oil subsidy, there would be no other way for these tin mines to hang in there but to fold up. This would directly create more jobless laborers and indirectly affect other enterprises related to tin mining.

Fishermen, farmers and transportation enterprises would also be directly affected. The Association of Minibus Operators has already reacted to the plan to abolish the diesel oil subsidy, arguing that they should be permitted to hike their fares. Previously, they had filed for a fare increase, but

their petition was turned down. Now if the diesel oil subsidy is abolished, the association will fight again, unless the authorities draw up another scheme to help curtail their expenditures. Otherwise, the consumers will suffer a heavier burden.

The government once stated that, thanks to the diesel oil subsidy, many fuel-consuming industries switched to inexpensive diesel oil. But the minister of trade and industry, Tengku Datuk Ahmad Rithauddeen, also pointed out that the government cannot continue to give the diesel oil subsidy, particularly at a time when our country is facing an economic recession, and that this subsidy should be abolished to reduce government expenditures.

We feel that any measure is bound to have some abuses, but we cannot abolish a policy which affects the people's livelihood on account of these abuses, because it would be tantamount to "cutting the feet to fit the shoes," a procrustean action indeed. The best plan is how to take effective steps in order to prevent the occurrence of corrupt practices. Therefore, before implementing the total abolition of the diesel oil subsidy, the government should take into consideration the difficult problems being faced by various enterprises and their aftermath.

9300

CSO: 4205/36



## THAILAND

### EDITORIAL: BURMA VIOLATES THAI SOVEREIGNTY IN SUPPRESSION OF KARENS

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 28 Jan 84 p 3

[Editorial: "The Situation Along the Border With Burma"]

[Text] The situation along the Thai-Burmese border in Tha Songyang and Mae Sot districts in Tak Province is rather tense at present because of the [Burmese] operations to eliminate the Karens, whom the Burmese regard as rebels. The fighting between the two sides has resulted in Thai citizens being killed and their houses destroyed.

The fighting between these two groups may become even more intense, and the losses resulting from the fighting will affect our people, too. In particular, Tha Songyang District, which lies along the border, will, either intentionally or unintentionally, be hit in the operation to eliminate the Karens and so there will be losses here. This is because the Karens use the border here to fight the Burmese since it is a good site for them.

Concerning this struggle between these two groups, we are not involved. And yet Thais are being killed and their houses are being destroyed. This matter does not concern just paying compensation for the losses, concerning which Burma shows no signs of making amends. Measures must be taken to protect the lives and property of our Thai citizens.

The area on the Tha Songyang and Burmese sides of the border is an area where people used to cross back and forth during normal times. In Mae Sot District, too, Burmese regularly crossed back and forth; we have had such relations for a long time. When the Karens came and set up their headquarters just across the border [on the Burmese side], although we realized that this would pose a danger to Thailand, our officials could not drive them away from the border. Since this is the case, before Burma launches an operation, it should inform the Thai side so that we can take measures to protect ourselves. But Burma has never given any attention to mutual relations and so we have suffered these losses.

The Ministry of Interior or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs must quickly inform Burmese officials that the action taken by the Burmese government in trying to eliminate the enemy amounts to violating our sovereignty. Even if this has not been done intentionally, when Burmese troops cross into Thai territory even though it is clearly known where the target is located, it revives old feelings toward each other and arouses suspicions.

Similarly, we feel that Burma must beware of doing anything that shows signs of being aggressive toward Thailand or of harming Thai citizens along the border. Thailand has relations with the Burmese government. It must quickly take action to ensure that our citizens along the border will not be injured.

11943

CSO: 4207/88

COLUMNIST NOTES IMPROVEMENTS IN PRK

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 21 Jan 84 p 2

[Window on the World column by Sunthon Wathi: "Our Neighbor Today"]

[Text] Thais know a lot about the United States, England and France. But they know very little about their neighbors. The neighboring countries about which we hear the most are Malaysia and Singapore since these are open societies. As for Burma, Laos and Kampuchea, we know very little about them.

Speaking about Kampuchea, since the Khmer Rouge took power in April 1975, Kampuchea has been a closed country and has cut off contact with the outside world almost completely. But even though the Khmer Rouge were driven out of Phnom Penh 5 years ago, Kampuchea under Heng Samrin has remained a closed country.

It may be open to Vietnam, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, but it remains closed to the Western world and to neighbors such as Thailand.

It allows in only necessary goods that the Heng Samrin government allows to be smuggled across the border. Foreign reporters are rarely permitted to go to Phnom Penh. At present, Vitrun Amon, a Reuters correspondent who is covering Kampuchea, has filed several reports that are very interesting.

After 5 years under the control of the Heng Samrin government, things in Phnom Penh have returned to normal. The citizens don't have to worry about being forced to leave and settle down in rural areas as was the case during the time of the Khmer Rouge. People have moved back to Phnom Penh and so the city's population has now risen to 650,000.

The economic system, in which currency was not used during the Pol Pot period, has now been improved. The riel is now in use again. Today, Kampuchea is like Laos in one respect. That is, the cities are full of Vietnamese troops and Soviet experts. It has to rely heavily on aid from Moscow.

The difference is that there are still no televisions in Kampuchea. In Laos, there is a television station built by the Soviet Union. But instead of listening to Russian programs, can you believe it, the Lao people listen to Channel 7 [a Thai channel]. And the program that they love is "Kwan Fa Na Dam."

11943

CSO: 4207/88

COLUMNIST POINTS UP CLASS DIVISIONS IN SOCIETY

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 21 Jan 84 p 3

[Mangkorn Halep column: "What Kind of Thai Are You?"]

[Text] The population of Thailand today is about 50 million. Can you tell immediately what class you are in? If you choose one of the responses for each question, you will find out what class you belong to.

1. What are your tastes in housing?

a. You prefer to build a "small" house on a large piece of property, with the house costing 4 million and the interior decoration costing another 6 million.

b. You prefer to purchase a townhouse with a low down payment and long-term mortgage.

c. You have asked to rent a room in a slum where your children can at least sleep.

2. How do you get to work?

a. You use an imported 450 Benz.

b. You use an old second-hand Japanese car that you are paying for on time.

c. You have to use the terrible buses.

3. On the weekends, what do you like to do for relaxation?

a. Go water skiing at Phathaya or go fishing at Bang Sa.

b. Stay at home since going out costs money.

c. Look for special work, such as manual labor, to help keep up with the cost of living.

4. What type of food do you prefer?

- a. Food carefully prepared by a French chef.
- b. Hot curry, an omelet or something of that sort
- c. Phak bung [green vegetable] obtained from the marsh behind your house, sprinkled with fish sauce and pepper and eaten with rice.

5. What are your tastes in clothing and jewellery?

- a. You buy clothes from Harrods in London. Or nearer to home, you shop at the People's Park in Singapore or the Ocean Terminal in Hong Kong.
- b. You shop at Central Department Store on Wangburapha, Silom, Chitlom, Lat Ya or Lat Phrao.
- c. You wear old clothes that you were given 6 years ago.

6. When you get sick, what do you do?

- a. You rush to a private hospital such as the Samitiwet hospital for an examination.
- b. You purchase some medicine from a drugstore and take the medicine as the druggist suggests.
- c. You let the disease run its course since most diseases will clear up by themselves.

7. What about your political future and preferences?

- a. You will soon be made deputy minister of some ministry to honor your family.
- b. You never go to vote because of bad experiences.
- c. You will end up "going into the jungle."

To measure the results, if you answered "a" to all of the questions, you are one of the top 100,000 people in the country.

If you chose mostly "b" you are in the top 500,000.

And if you chose "c" to all the questions, you are like me, that is, you are among the remaining 49,400,000 Thais.

CSO: 4207/88



COLUMNIST SCORES F-16 PURCHASE

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 7 Feb 84 p 5

[Siap in the Face column by Pleo Singoen: "People and Weapons"]

[Text] I went to where the heat was intense and breathed the pure, hot air near the top of Doi Yan in Kanchanaburi. On the way back, I stopped off to see the Chao Nen Dam before sundown. This hydropower plant cost a total of around 4 billion [baht] to build, with the money used to build it being loan money and money from the budget.

Concerning these power generating activities, I don't see anything to worry about. Our children won't have to bear the burden since it can pay for itself.

For 4 billion baht, you can build a standard dam that can bring great benefits to the people in the area. If you invest another 4 billion, you can get another good dam. Together, the two dams will cost less than 10 billion baht. This does not mean that I am urging people to build dams. I am just trying to make a comparison and show that for the same amount of money, we may not get something of equal value.

The air force is thinking of purchasing F-16 aircraft. A single flight of these aircraft costs 12 billion baht. And this will create jobs for only 10-12 people, that is, the pilots.

I am not opposed to the aim of the military, which wants to purchase F-16 aircraft. I don't oppose this because I don't dare. But I do have a few reasons to help us decide what to do. At the very least, I am one who will have to help pay for this flight of aircraft. Because it will take 20-30 years to pay off the debt. Those who purchase this aircraft, including myself, cannot possibly pay off the debt and so it will be passed on to our children, who will despise us for placing this burden on them.

Everyone knows that Thailand is a poor country and that if we get into a fight with someone, this aircraft won't help much. And before we get into a war, this aircraft will be outdated and so newer ones will have to be purchased.

It's said that this is needed to protect the country and frighten the enemy. But, to me, it seems that this is putting the future of the people at stake. If the purpose is to oppose the migs that Russia has given to Vietnam, why doesn't the United States just give us the F-16s. Then things would be equal.

If the United States really does sell us these aircraft, the initial cost of these aircraft is not the only cost. We will also have to maintain them and pay for fuel to use them. In the end, the villagers will have to pay large sums of money to support this flight of aircraft while the people go hungry.

Radio Thailand broadcast a report that said that "Thailand will make progress if the people in the country are not poor." Let's take that 12 billion baht and use it for development projects. I think that that would be more beneficial. Let's ask the United States for old warships and use them for fishing. Let's ask them for tractors and use them to plow the fields. Let's ask them for technological help in order to develop our agriculture. This would be much better than "wearing patched jeans" while spending billions on this aircraft.

Concerning the weapons and war materials that we are using now, I think that we really have enough. I think that we are strong enough without having to buy F-16 aircraft. We have communications equipment, but we don't know how to use it. Officials have to use helicopters to go talk to each other. If we had an artificial satellite, it wouldn't do us any good since people wouldn't know how to use it. This is just my opinion. It's not a complaint.

11443

CPD: 4207/88

NEED FOR UNIVERSAL NATIONAL DEFENSE EDUCATION STRESSED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Feb 84 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "National Defense Education"]

[Text] As defined by the 5th Congress of the Party, the tasks of our party, people and army are: "Successfully building socialism while maintaining combat readiness and firmly defending the socialist fatherland." The vivid realities of the revolution in our country over the past several years have confirmed the close relationship between these two strategic tasks. The world situation is becoming tense as a result of the new adventures of imperialism, headed by the U.S. imperialists, in the arms race. The reactionaries within Beijing ruling circles are still intently pursuing a hostile policy and resorting to every conceivable crafty scheme and evil act in an attempt to sabotage and impede our people's work of building the country. In the face of this situation, it is even more necessary for us to concern ourselves with building a solid national defense system and building powerful people's armed forces, armed forces that are strong enough to completely defeat the wide-ranging war of sabotage now being waged by the enemy and crush every act of military aggression carried out by the expansionists, regardless of its scale.

Building a strong and solid national defense system and powerful people's armed forces demands extensive efforts on the part of the entire party and all our people in many areas of work, among which two jobs of very important strategic significance are teaching all the people about national defense and fully preparing the young generation to fulfill its task of defending the fatherland.

Providing all the people with an education in national defense is large-scale work encompassing a very wide variety of subjects and forms of activity. The basic, long-range requirements of this work are to teach and cultivate communist ideals, socialist ethics, a steadfast revolutionary will and a sense of responsibility on the part of each citizen toward the task of defending the fatherland; organizing universal military training, organizing the technical sectors and trades necessary for national defense and organizing training in military physical culture in order to raise the level of physical conditioning; cultivating discipline among youths and teenagers so that they quickly become accustomed to the military style of life when performing their

task of defending the fatherland; organizing the thorough study of the Military Service Law, preparing youths well to fulfill their military obligation, encouraging young students to attend officers schools and so forth; gaining a full understanding of and fully complying with the law; insuring that all sectors and localities meet their annual induction norms, both in terms of the total number of inductees and their qualifications, insuring that high quality is achieved in military recruiting and so forth. These are the practical jobs that must be performed to build powerful, regular force and modern armed forces. In addition, teaching the heroic tradition of the nation, of our people's armed forces to all the people, especially to youths and teenagers, is an important job that must be performed on a regular basis through many different forms of activity in order to heighten the spirit of patriotism of all the people, deepen their love of socialism and strengthen their will to fight in defense of the fatherland.

The work involved in providing an education in national defense is work of a broad mass nature. To achieve high results, it is first of all necessary for the various levels in all sectors and localities to concern themselves with everything from encouraging activities to providing financial, material and technical assistance, providing yards and fields and organizing national defense clubs. On the basis of the general plan of the People's National Defense Education Central Guidance Committee, the sectors, localities, agencies and schools must adopt activity plans for each period of time and each specific stratum of society. As regards children of kindergarten age, other children and teenagers, importance must be attached to teaching patriotism and teaching about the heroic examples set by their fathers and older brothers as well as the beautiful image of "the troops of Uncle Ho." As regards youths, attention must be given to teaching them about their responsibility to defend the fatherland and the heroic tradition of the nation and cultivating among them a steadfast revolutionary will and the determination to overcome every difficulty and adversity and successfully complete each task. National defense education must always be closely linked to actions and to organizing the successful performance of the various tasks involved in strengthening the national defense system, coordinating the economy with the national defense system and building up the people's armed forces within each sector and each locality. It is necessary to avoid education that lacks substance, is ostentatious and wastes effort and avoid providing education in a cursory manner that yields no practical results.

The work of providing a national defense education is work of the entire party and all the people; at the same time, it is also a job that is the responsibility of the people's armed forces. Wherever troops are stationed, both main force and local army units must maintain close ties with the locality and work with the locality, with agencies, mass organizations and schools to provide a good national defense education. This year is the even year anniversary of many historic dates. This provides very favorable conditions for intensifying national defense education. Each unit must quickly formulate a plan and work with localities to provide a national defense education through many lively and interesting forms of activity, thereby creating a new atmosphere, one that encourages all the people to concern themselves with building a strong and solid national defense system, building a powerful people's army and putting national defense educational work on an increasingly solid footing, thereby making practical contributions to strengthening the national defense potentials of the country in the new stage.

FIELD GRADE RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING HELD

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Feb 84 pp 1, 4

[Article by Ngoc Nho: "Military Region 2 Holds First Training Class for Field Grade Reserve Officers"]

[Text] Recently, the Military Administration School of Military Region 2 held the first training class for field grade reserve officers in three provinces, Ha Tuyen, Vinh Phu and Hoang Lien Son, with a view toward standardizing and strengthening the military knowledge of officers who had completed their tasks and were being transferred to agencies of the state or returning to their locality to participate in production. At the same time, supplementary training was provided to company grade reserve officers through short-term training on the field grade level.

This was the first class designed to provide training and supplementary training to cadres of the mobilizable reserve units and gain experience for subsequent classes held by the military region and the ministry. In particular, the students who attended this class were receiving this training for the first time and represented a broader cross-section than other classes. Some 71 percent of the students were officers who have been working in production or the services since their discharge and 70 percent were between the ages of 40 and 45. The vast majority of them have been away from the army for 5 years or more and their academic qualifications, military knowledge, health and so forth vary from one person to another.

During the very first days of the class, fully aware of these special characteristics, the leaders of the school and the cadre assistants of the military region regularly met with the students attending the class to learn their thoughts and feelings and encourage everyone to study. The school assigned to the class cadres and teachers who are experienced in management and instruction; at the same time, a stronger effort was made to teach the tradition and nature of the army, gain a thorough understanding of the objectives and requirements of the class and teach the responsibility of the reserve officer in building and defending the fatherland. Despite encountering many difficulties, the military region and the school made an effort to implement the regulations and policies to the students after being mobilized back into the army for training, issued the necessary items and

created the best possible material, spiritual and cultural conditions for the class.

As a result, the class achieved good results. Its students gained a firm grasp of field grade military knowledge and reviewed the 12 subjects of study. Upon graduation, the students eagerly returned to their localities to participate in production and work and properly establish the position of the field grade reserve officers of mobilizable reserve units in the new situation.

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## MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

### ARMY'S PROBLEMS IN PRODUCTION OF EXPORTS DISCUSSED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Feb 84 p 3

[Socio-Economic Forum column by Tran Tuan Anh: "The Army Makes Full Use of Capabilities and Produces Export Goods"]

[Text] In the advance from small-scale to large-scale production, socialist industrialization and the acceleration of the scientific-technological revolution in the initial stage, in addition to making use of every domestic capability, we must import very many items, from machinery and equipment to supplies, raw materials, fuel and a number of necessary consumer goods. To obtain the foreign currency needed for imports, we cannot simply look for assistance from the fraternal countries nor can we rely upon capital borrowed from friendly countries. The basic course to follow is to produce export goods to trade for those products that must be imported. Therefore, the resolution of the 5th National Congress of the Party pointed out: "Exporting products is an extremely important strategic task, is a major obligation of each sector and level. Every effort must be made to increase our exports to insure the importation of those types of equipment and technical materials needed for the normal activity of the national economy, for socialist industrialization and in order to gradually balance our exports and imports and establish a balance of international payments. In conjunction with accelerating production and practicing frugality in consumption so that we can increase our sources of export goods, positive steps must be taken to expand tourist services and other business activities designed to increase our foreign currency revenues." "All sectors and localities have the obligation of contributing as much as possible to the export plan of the entire country and must endeavor to increase their exports so that they can meet their own needs for imports and help to increase the export revenues of the state."

On the basis of endeavoring to successfully complete its foremost task of maintaining combat readiness and fighting to defend the fatherland, our army is still highly capable of producing export goods and providing services that earn foreign currency for the state. We have a rather large labor force of able-bodied youths, a corps of scientific and technical cadres capable of performing research in many areas and a force of highly experienced, skilled workers. We also have national defense enterprises equipped with modern, precision machinery and the scope of operation of our army is very broad,

extending from the mountainous forests, the islands and the lowlands to the offshore waters of the fatherland. These are favorable conditions, conditions that our army can use and which will enable it to bring the strength of all its forces into the production and development of export goods and services for foreign countries in order to help develop the national economy.

During the past several years, several units have been producing a number of export goods and providing certain services, thus contributing to the overall export plan of the country. In 1982 alone, according to incomplete data, 14 units produced 18 export products worth more than 130 million dong; among these products were nine industrial goods worth 74 million dong, three marine products worth 260,000 dong, two agricultural products worth 1,770,000 dong, three forestry products worth 766,000 dong, one mineral product worth 30,000 dong and ocean ship repair services that earned 55 million dong.

Export goods such as lightbulbs, kitchen stoves, paper clips and ship repair services, have been incorporated in stable yearly production plans.

However, in the recent past, due to the lack of a uniform policy and concerted guidance, the production of export goods by the army has been greatly limited and there have been improper practices that must be corrected. Most widespread has been the practice of units to establish contract relations on their own for the purpose of selling or producing goods that are "purchased wholesale, sold retail" or engaging in "barter," consequently, returns have been low and increased slowly, production has not been carried out in accordance with stable plans, guidelines have not been adopted for expanding production, full use is not being made of machine capacity and labor is idle. At some places, investments have been made in the production of goods that are not consistent with market needs, consequently, products have been difficult to market and much capital, labor and technology has been invested but returns have been low. Conversely, some products that are in very high demand on the market, products which the foreign trade sector has requested units of the army to produce and products which units are capable of producing with high quality, in large quantity and with small investments and high economic returns are not being produced. Some units that are producing export goods are not receiving a full supply of materials but other units that are receiving a full supply of materials are using these materials on other jobs and not producing enough export goods to deliver the amounts required under their contracts.

While agreeing to produce export goods, many units still do not have a full understanding of state policy and regulations or market prices; because they have not utilized suitable methods of selling their products, they have not been eligible to "use foreign currency" in accordance with Decree 200/CP and Decision 113/HDBT of the state. Consequently, while the total value of exports in 1982 exceeded 131 million dong, the foreign currency earned only amounted 21,597.5 dollars and a considerable amount of the profit earned had to be shared with intermediaries, as a result of which returns were low. Some units that have earned foreign currency do not know how to use it in a manner that yields high economic returns, consequently, they have simply allowed their capital to remain in the account of the export-import corporation. The policy regarding army units that produce export goods has also not been

clearly defined, as a result of which units are not given incentive to develop their production. Some units that have received a number of consumer goods in trade from foreign trade agencies, goods that should have been used to improve the living conditions of their cadres and workers, have, instead of complying with policy, sold them on the free market.

To correct the shortcomings mentioned above and with a view toward making full use of each capability that the army has to participate in export goods, the Ministry of National Defense and the Ministry of Foreign Trade signed an agreement between the two ministries to guide the participation of army units in the production of export goods. At the same time, the Ministry of National Defense has begun to organize export-import management agencies of the army to assist it in guiding the entire army in the production of export goods and the performance of services that earn foreign currency.

These are new advantages that provide our army with the conditions needed to strongly develop its ability to produce export goods. However, through the study of several units that have participated in the production of export goods, we have found that units must also attach importance to the following several matters in order to achieve high economic returns:

Export goods are goods that involve high qualitative requirements and must meet specific qualitative standards and specifications. Therefore, units must know how to apply suitable scientific and technical measures that provide for proper storage and strict quality control before they can insure that their products meet export requirements, before they can execute their economic contracts well and before they can reduce unnecessary costs in order to achieve high returns.

The selection of which export product to produce cannot be based on subjective desires, but must be based on the actual conditions and capabilities of one's unit and its raw materials, supplies, machinery and technical equipment. Therefore, before deciding which product to produce, units must make thorough calculations and support themselves with full economic-technical documentation so that they are assured of success, assured of profits when they begin production. Experience has shown: to achieve high economic returns, units should not produce too many products, rather, they should only select a few main products that are very well suited to their actual conditions and make truly appropriate, concerted investments in order to achieve high quantitative and qualitative results. In addition, we should not ignore subsidiary products that do not require much capital or labor and need only for their collection to be well organized, such as hair shavings, duck down, goose down, pig skin, pig hooves, animal bones and so forth. The use value of these products is not important to use but if they are collected in large quantity and exported, they will not be wasted and we will earn foreign currency.

The production of export goods, especially industrial goods and products that must be processed, requires a stable market. Of utmost importance in achieving a stable market is for the producer to not only produce products that meet qualitative standards and specifications, but also to correctly execute the economic contracts that have been signed and deliver the full quantity of products of the stipulated quality on schedule in order to retain



the confidence of customers. Permanent relations cannot be maintained if this confidence is lost.

The needs and tastes of consumers are constantly changing. Therefore, units must regularly assess the tastes and keep abreast of the requirements of consumers so that they can always produce new products that are consistent with the consumer needs of the market and suited to the tastes of customers. Instead of being satisfied with permanently maintaining the original use value and form of a product, they must constantly look for ways to improve it so that it is more convenient to use, more attractive and of higher quality.

At present, each national defense enterprise has its own strengths in terms of machinery and technology. In addition to being able to produce a complete product, there is also the ability to produce one part of a particular product with high quality and high productivity without having to acquire additional equipment or reorganize the production line. As a result, to make full use of the capacity of each enterprise, it is necessary to establish production ties among national defense enterprises. Because, some products, such as bicycles, electric fans and so forth, can only be produced as high quality, finished products if production ties are established among enterprises. If one enterprise is assigned the task of producing these kinds of products from start to finish, it will encounter difficulties and be unable to insure product quality.

Economic ties must not only be established within the army, but can also be established with scientific-technical research agencies, with enterprises of the state and with localities in order to join forces in the production of many export goods of high economic value.

While selling export goods and buying imports, units must firmly adhere to the following principles: they must fully comply with the regulations of the state and the Ministry of National Defense; the production and delivery of products must be organized and planned and not based solely on profit, which easily disrupts the market. Export goods must be produced or mined by the unit itself and the unit may not compete to buy products with foreign trade organizations or localities, a practice which raises prices and disrupts the market. Imports must be planned and designed to support production and the daily lives of troops and benefit the unit but also benefit the army and state.

Exports are a strategic issue in the economic strategy of our party. The ability of our army to produce export goods is considerable. At present, our country's economy is still unbalanced in many areas and more than a few difficulties will still be encountered with regard to the army participating in the production of exports. However, if the ministries and the various echelons of our armed forces fully recognize the importance of exports, establish good coordination between the economy and the national defense system and make full use of existing capacity, our army will surely achieve higher economic returns in its participation in the production of export goods.

VIETNAMESE WORKERS BEING SENT TO EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES

20,000 Workers in USSR

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 11 Feb 84 p 4

[Article by "Eye on Indochina" column by Bruno Franceschi]

[Text]

NEARLY 60,000 Vietnamese workers have been sent overseas in the last four years, most to Hanoi's communist allies, according to official figures. Western sources here said that the figure could be higher.

Human rights organisations have accused Vietnam of paying its debts to the Eastern bloc by exporting labour. But Vietnamese workers, whose monthly pay packet at home would be about 200 dong (450 baht), are queuing up to work abroad, Vietnamese sources said.

Vietnamese aged from 18 to 35 went to work in the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Bulgaria and other countries for four or five year periods, the official *Nhan Dan* newspaper said.

In the Soviet Union and East Germany, Vietnamese workers make up for the lack of local manual labourers. At the same time, Vietnam can alleviate to a small extent its chronic unemployment problem and the workers get professional training, Eastern European sources here said.

Some six million Vietnamese were jobless last year.

A series of bilateral agreements cover the Vietnamese migration. In 1981, accords were signed with the Soviet Union in April, Czechoslovakia in September, and Bulgaria in November, while one was signed with East Germany in January 1982.

Currently, slightly fewer than 20,000 Vietnamese are working in the Soviet Union, mostly in the southern republics, Ukraine, Azer-

baijan and Turkmenistan, Soviet sources said. None was sent to Siberia "because of the difficult work conditions there," they said.

However, a US State Department report submitted to Congress in November claimed that a number of Vietnamese were employed in the construction of the gas pipeline from the Soviet Far East to Europe.

It said that a "considerable part" of the Vietnamese workers' earnings was kept back, they were treated worse than their Soviet counterparts, they lived in separate quarters and most were involved in manual work. The Soviet newspaper *Sovietskaya Rossia* rejected the report as "propagandist blackmail."

Vietnamese Employment Minister Dao Thien Tri said that the Vietnamese in the Soviet Union were working in the iron and steel, textile, electronics, construction and timber industries.

STATISTICS

In Czechoslovakia, official statistics from last July showed that 26,000 Vietnamese were employed there, mostly in the iron and steel and glass industries. But several Czechoslovak sources estimated that there were nearer 40,000 Vietnamese workers in the country.

No official figure was available here on the number in East Germany and Bulgaria, but sources here said it could be as high as 10,000 to 20,000 in the two countries.

In Poland, the banned trade union Solidarity recently expressed concern over Warsaw's plan to employ Vietnamese in certain sectors to replace Poles out of work because of illegal trade union activities.

The International Federation on Human Rights has several times accused Vietnam of paying its debts by sending surplus workers abroad. One report said that Hanoi had sent "tens of thousands of its nationals to Czechoslovakia in exchange for military equipment and materials." Vietnamese officials routinely deny the claim.

### Poland To Receive Workers

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]

WARSAW, Feb. 10

FOR the first time in Poland's history, Vietnamese workers will soon be brought in to help heavy industries suffering from a manpower shortage, a reliable source said here yesterday.

The banned Solidarity trade union has reacted angrily to the plan, saying the shortages are due to systematic sacking of known trade union militants, not to a lack of available Polish workers.

Poland is the only Soviet bloc country not to have received Vietnamese workers. But following a series of negotiations which began last year a first contingent of up to 1,000 unaccompanied

young Vietnamese workers is expected in Poland sometime this month, the source added.

Early this month, the government daily *Rzeczpospolita* said the Adolf Warski naval shipyards at Szczecin on the Baltic coast, a bastion of the banned Solidarity trade union, were short of manpower and planned to employ 300 Vietnamese workers to make up the numbers.

Then on Wednesday PAP official news agency said the 30,000-strong workforce at the Lenin steelworks at Nowa Huta, near Cracow, southern Poland, was short of workers because people kept leaving their jobs.

AFP

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## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

### NGUYEN CO THACH REMARKS ON KAMPUCHEA ISSUE CITED

BK170310 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] Canberra--Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, switching tactics to embrace the public views of the Australian Government, said in a speech yesterday that elimination of the Khmer Rouge could solve the Kampuchean crisis.

"Before, we put top priority to the cessation of the China threat," Mr Thach told members of the National Press Club. "Now we have turned that upside down and put Pol Pot as the top priority. I think this is the more realistic approach."

He claimed Hanoi leaders now felt that previous thinking, which involved a long-term and comprehensive solution, was not realistic. It was now looking for what he called a partial solution.

In other developments revolving around the diplomatic flurry caused by Mr Thach's tour:

--Indonesian armed forces commander Benni Murdani defended the Kampuchean invasion by Hanoi as "a question of safeguarding the existence (of Vietnam) and not a matter of territorial ambitions";

--Indonesian Foreign Minister Mohtar Kusumaatmaja revealed that Mr Thach had rejected out of hand an ASEAN proposal calling for a phased Hanoi withdrawal from Kampuchea, even with a stipulation that Vietnamese troops be part of a peacekeeping force, and,

--Prime Minister Son Sann of the anti-Hanoi Kampuchean coalition, promised that his nation would be friendly and a good neighbour to Vietnam if it pulled its troops out.

Mr Thach, who arrives back in Bangkok next week after his visits to Indonesia and Australia, told his Canberra audience that Hanoi now was ready to discuss five issues on Kampuchea: Vietnamese troop withdrawals; removal of Pol Pot and his associates; a "safety zone" on both sides of the Thai-Kampuchean border; security of its own borders including China's border with Vietnam and Laos, and self-determination for Kampuchea without Pol Pot.

The Vietnamese foreign minister said elimination of the Khmer Rouge would hamstring China's ability to threaten southeast Asia and pave the way for a regional settlement.

"There is no room in the community for them," he said of the Khmer Rouge. "If they want to come back and reverse the revival of the Kampuchean people... we must combine our forces to eliminate them, not to give them room anywhere."

Mr Thach's comments were close to those of Australian leaders, including Foreign Minister Bill Hayden during an interview with the Bangkok Post last year.

In Jakarta, army chief General Murdani released a statement in which he compared Vietnam's security needs to those of Israel.

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## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

### CATTLE, CHICKENS FROM CUBA GROW VIGOROUSLY IN VIETNAM

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Jan 84 p 3

[Article by Hai Trieu: "Vietnam-Cuba Friendship Month -- Cuban Cattle, Chickens Reproduce, Grow Quickly in Vietnam"]

[Text] As we traveled west of Hanoi's suburbs, among the Ba Vi hills and mountains, just within the last several years we came upon an installation that had been built on a level meadow tens of hectares in size. In September 1973, the Ba Vi center for raising breeding bulls, which bears the name of Cuban hero Moncada, was officially dedicated and began to operate. Four stable areas have neat and well-ventilated stables large enough to accommodate more than 100 bulls of the large, tall and heavy breed that has not existed in our country before; a modern veterinary chemistry laboratory is capable of manufacturing from 250,000 to 300,000 frozen semen pellets and, more importantly, keeping them in good conditions for 15-20 years in order to supply them to cattle-crossbreeding installations throughout the country.

The fact that the first breeding bulls from the Western Hemisphere were quickly multiplying in Ba Vi was one of the hundreds of thousands of precious products from our Cuban brothers and their affectionate feelings. We now have not only the Ba Vi cattle-raising center but also the Ba Vi breeding chicken- and egg-producing center and the Tam Dao chicken meat-producing center, as well as many other modern installations for breeding domestic animals and fowls that have been built with Cuban aid and investment in advanced technology and modern equipment ranging from production to improved products.

With nonpayable assistance from the fraternal Republic of Cuba, our country's animal husbandry sector now has many large solidly-built installations where the procreation and raising of breeding animals and fowls are carried out in accordance with advanced technical plans and many products are made to contribute to improving the standard of living of our people.

As the bull-raising center in Ba Vi expanded, we then had large additional branches in former Zone 4, Ho Chi Minh City and Da Nang and many insemination stations in the provinces using frozen semen pellets. Tens of thousands of cattle were impregnated with frozen semen pellets and helped to quickly improve the small size of our own cattle, which now would give more meat and milk. Friendly Cuba also assisted us in building a number of installations where cows capable of giving large quantities of milk and meat were produced for breeding purposes. As a result, to grow cattle for meat and milk has become one of the large-scale activities in such localities as Moc Chau and Lam Dong. Moc Chau had thousands of milch cows producing about 4,000 liters of milk in a milking cycle.

In the winter of 1973, hundreds of thousands of tons of building equipment and materials and means "were crossing the ocean" to come to our country. Many Cuban cadres and workers had volunteered to come to our country to build two large domestic fowls-raising centers in Ba Vi and Tam Dao and a number of installations producing breeding chickens. These 2 purebred chickens-producing installations are capable of raising 40,000 hens basically for eggs. Each center is equipped with automatic large-capacity incubators capable of producing each year millions of breeding chickens and eggs for production of purebred chickens, which will be supplied to the installations that raise them to get larger quantities of eggs and meat under our country's climatic and fowl-raising conditions.

To have good breeders would be to have good domestic animals and fowls. The people who worked in our country's chickens-raising sector still remembered vividly a memorable statement made in 1969 during his first visit to our country by Sosa, Cuba's deputy director general of the chickens-raising sector, "whatever we have in Cuba's domestic fowl sector Vietnam will get, for we provide Vietnam not only with chickens of commercial quality but also the 'sources' that would allow you to have a new herd of chickens."

That statement became a reality only within a few years. With 42,000 eggs sent to the Ba Vi and Tam Dao centers from Cuba for breeding purposes we successfully raised 8 generations of purebred chickens and are raising the 9th generation with good initial results. The white-feathered Leghorn chickens are raised for 3 months and produce about 250 eggs each per year. The Plymouth Rock chickens with "striped" feathers grow to a weight of more than 1.2 kilograms after having been raised for only 8 weeks. And the crossbred chickens give even more eggs and meat.

From these two breeding centers we have a herd of good chickens with which we can satisfy the increasing needs of a sector that raises them by the industrial method. And thanks to the production of good breeders we have provided friendly Laos and Kampuchea with them for development of animal husbandry.

The chickens-raising sector that uses the industrial method is being expanded in 28 provinces and municipalities. Many state-operated installations are producing on a large scale, with capacities reaching about 10 million eggs or hundreds of tons of meat per year. Many cooperatives and families that raise chickens also have good income from eggs and chickens they raise for meat. The products of animal husbandry based on industrial methods become more and more numerous. In 1983, we produced 46 million eggs and 1,800 tons of meat chickens and thus made good contributions to satisfying the needs of society for foods.

In the field of training cadres and doing scientific and technical research in animal husbandry, Cuba also provided great assistance. Since 1968 the friendly country has helped us to train hundreds of technical cadres and workers specialized in animal husbandry management. In the domestic fowls-raising sector alone, more than 50 cadres of college and graduate levels and high-level workers have come home and are showing their usefulness and playing a key role in all activities in the sector.

Since 1973, in addition to tens of technicians specialized in raising milch cows, there were more than 50 Cuban domestic fowl specialists; some of them have repeatedly come to Vietnam to assist us in building fowl-raising installations, operating building equipment, planning for development of animal husbandry and preventing diseases among our domestic animals and fowls. The Cuban technicians always showed a high degree of internationalist spirit, labor vigor and understanding, as well as an ability to bear hardship and difficulties. Technicians Hector, Himenez, Rosen Andoret and Nicholas, and lady technician Nereida were people who led a simple life and worked hard for Vietnam.

We can interminably write about the Cuban technicians' revolutionary vigor toward Vietnam. A deep feeling on their part has been left in the heart of many people: "We try hard in order to quickly put additional eggs and liters of milk in the daily meals of every Vietnamese family."

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## ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

### EXPORT ACTIVITIES IN 1983 SHOW PROGRESS OF MANY KINDS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Jan 84 p 2

[Article by Hoang Khac Kim: "Output-Quality-Efficiency -- Progress in Export"]

[Text] A new feature in export in 1983 was the fact that all sectors and echelons continued to undergo strong changes in their awareness, leadership and organization of fulfillment of the task set in their plans as they considered export a major instrument for economic construction and development.

In the case of the goods for which the state maintained a balanced supply, although early in the year there were difficulties in connection with creating sources of supply and with the mechanism for achieving it, in the last 6 months we were able to ensure the supply of an important part of them and, in the case of some of them, even some increases compared to last year. As to other goods for which the foreign trade sector and localities were to maintain a balanced supply of materials, there were great efforts to resolve the matter. A number of localities for the first time achieved an economic alliance by jointly creating additional sources of goods for export. For instance, Quang Ninh Province provided the necessary raw materials and Hanoi fully used its industrial capabilities to produce the commodities needed and to supply Quang Ninh with them for its purchasing goods for export. Such efforts, along with the new changes in export-import management, helped to boost the sources of goods the state exported by 26 percent and to raise the export value as obtained by the export-import organizations subordinate to the Ministry of Foreign Trade and by the units directly authorized to export and import and subordinate to other ministries (Marine Products, Light Industry, Home Trade) by 25.4 and 12 percent, respectively, over 1982. While the capabilities of the state-operated sectors and production installations were exploited to boost export, new progress was also made in stepping up export from the local economy. Many localities fulfilled or overfulfilled their export tasks as set in the central plan. At the same time, they strived to exploit all of their land and labor capabilities in order to boost local export and through export



and import, in the form of either being assigned to others or directly carried out by themselves, made a large quantity of materials and goods available for production and everyday life, first of all for agricultural production, and for creating larger sources of export goods of their own. A number of localities like Thai Binh and Haiphong, after having fulfilled their obligation to the central government, made a quantity of major agricultural products available for export in order to import fertilizers to raise their rice crop yields and at the same time put aside land for industrial crops for export.

The implementation of the policies that encouraged export lately brought about good results for the first time and helped to promote development of the production of sectors and localities. The value of exports further benefited the state as it generated more import and provided it with favorable conditions for maintaining a balance to assist production and to purchase more goods for export. At the same time, as the economic interests in foreign trade exchanges were appropriately served, they further encouraged localities, production installations and laborers to enthusiastically produce goods for export. As a result, the export values showed increases of 50-57 percent in the case of agricultural products and processed agricultural products, 75 percent in the case of sea products and 17 percent in the case of forest products compared to 1982. These increases included such items as shelled peanut, which was doubled; tobacco, 3.3 times; coffee, doubled, and so on. The economic benefits brought about by foreign trade exchanges through the implementation of new policies created not only the material conditions for production and for making purchases but also sources of invested capital for greater sources of goods for export. With capital brought about by export and import, in 1983 some localities like Quang Ninh invested more than 50 percent of the capital they had created by themselves in growing industrial crops, developing animal husbandry, building production and processing installations and training workers for the field of export. Ho Chi Minh City invested capital in growing 2,000 hectares of anacardium in Cu Chi, Binh Chanh, Thu Duc and Song Be; 6,000 hectares of peanut and 6,000 hectares of specialized-cultivation vegetables for export in its suburbs; and 200 hectares of yellow tobacco in Cu Chi, and gradually supplemented and replaced the equipment and technology of a number of industrial installations in order to enhance their ability to produce and process goods for export. The specialized-cultivation zones that planted crops for export, such as peanut in Nghe Tinh, garlic in Hai Hung, jute in the Nam Bo delta and tung trees in Cao Bang, and tens of thousands of hectares of anacardium that had just been planted in the central provinces mainly relied on such sources of invested capital, which were achieved with the formula of "the state and the people work together; the central and local levels work jointly for export." At the same time, with the cooperation of the Soviet Union and the CEMA countries, a number of zones specialized in growing industrial crops for export were further expanded and developed, with some of them having begun to supply products for export.

Every product that was made for export and every dong of foreign exchange that the state collected through export and import was the result of the combined activities of all sectors, echelons and localities. The foreign trade sector played an important role in it. With an awareness of the responsibilities for assisting, guiding and serving as rear service for the production of goods for export, the leadership provided by the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the organization of units in the sector for fulfillment of their business tasks were gradually linked with production and with serving the development of production.

In 1983, the foreign trade sector sent many groups of cadres to different localities to assist in building sources of goods for export, held many conferences to discuss the measures to be taken to raise the quality of goods and tried to know the export-import capacities and needs of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City so as to contribute to the task of building and developing these two municipalities in accordance with the Political Bureau resolution. Although the results were not too great, such efforts did contribute to fulfilling the plan in the case of many kinds of goods for export. Such items as peanut, tobacco, canned fruits, rubber, coffee, cinnamon, anise oil, fresh fruits, articles made of rush, woven bamboo and rattan, hand tools, medicinal ointment, and so on were quite good in terms of reaching the goals set in the plan. As to local export, wherever the foreign trade organizations were active and worked closely with local producers the sources of goods for export were always expanding and foreign trade itself exerted its influence on production and everyday life. On the other hand, any localities that failed to link foreign trade with production and the foreign trade organizations that were doing business in a certain goods failed to actively serve production, they could not quickly increase the sources of goods for export.

The efforts of the export-import organizations last year showed that they served relatively well production and exploited the sources of goods for export in agriculture and marine products. As to some other industrial fields, if the link between foreign trade and production had been closer and more effective, the sources of goods for export in such fields could have been greatly increased. If the plan had been maintained at a higher level of balance, if the quality of some exported goods had been better and if the use of some materials that helped to maintain balance for production and the purchases of goods for export had been more effective, the values obtained from exports could have been much higher.

## AGRICULTURE

### LAND REDISTRIBUTION STATISTICS FOR HO CHI MINH CITY REPORTED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Feb 84 p 1

[Article by T. A.: "Ho Chi Minh City Virtually Completes the Redistribution of Cropland; 596 More Solidarity Teams, 240 More Production Collectives and 18 Additional Agricultural Cooperatives Established"]

[Text] In keeping with the directive of the central level on completing the redistribution of cropland and intensifying the socialist transformation of agriculture, Ho Chi Minh City has now virtually completed the redistribution of cropland, doing so 3 months ahead of schedule. In conjunction with redistributing cropland, the city has taken positive steps to strengthen existing production collectives and agricultural cooperatives and has established 596 additional solidarity teams and 240 more agricultural production collectives, thus bringing the total number of production solidarity teams within the city to 2,519 (which account for 42 percent of farm households). There are 615 production collectives and 28 agricultural cooperatives (which account for 37.9 percent of farm households). Twenty-seven percent of cropland has been collectivized. Seventy-nine of the 86 villages in the outskirts of the city have established marketing cooperatives with a total of 800 sales points in hamlets and 189,222 members. Some 22 villages have established credit cooperatives.

To develop upon the results that have been achieved, the city has adopted a plan for insuring the completion of agricultural cooperativization in the outskirts of the city by the end of 1985. In 1984, the city will establish 700 additional production collectives and 46 more agricultural cooperatives, collectivize an additional 38 percent of cropland and bring an additional 40 percent of farm households into collectives and cooperatives. The city has also taken steps that will enable it to complete the establishment of marketing cooperatives and credit cooperatives in the villages outside the city and the agricultural subwards by the end of 1984. At the same time, it will endeavor to virtually complete the establishment of small industry and handicraft cooperatives and production teams within villages.

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CSO: 4209/200

## COTTON GROWING IN THUAN HAI EXAMINED

Hanoi VIETNAM PICTORIAL No 298. Oct 83 p 20

[Article by The Thuan and Bui Tan]

[Text] Cotton growing has received due attention from the government in its effort to meet the demand for clothing. However, in the north, cotton is still being planted haphazardly for the most part by individual households in the highlands, and also on a small scale in a few State farms in Son La, Thanh Hoa and Nghe Tinh provinces but this is mainly to obtain seeds. On the other hand, Thuan Hai in the southern part of central Vietnam, has potential for large-scale cotton growing.

The province has some 90,000 hectares of land suitable for cotton: a high temperature, dew humidity, and a high proportion of hours of sunlight--all of which is conducive to successful cotton growing.

Although cotton may be grown in Thuan Hai all the year round, at present the two main crops of the year are planted in the rainy season owing to the almost exclusive reliance on rain water in the absence of a proper irrigation system.

When cotton growing began in Thuan Hai in 1976, it covered an area of 600 hectares, which increased to nearly 5,000 hectares in 1977, 1,200 hectares of which were tilled by army units. That year, the province brought in over 7,000 tons of cotton seeds. Cotton growers in Thuan Hai were so confident that they anticipated the area under cotton would increase to 20,000 hectares by 1980, excluding tens of thousands of hectares planted by army units engaged in economic reconstruction.

Unfortunately by 1982, the cotton area in Thuan Hai had declined to something over 1,000 hectares. The reasons were:

1. Insufficient attention to the problem of irrigation;
2. Shortage of insecticides, spraying equipment and other supplies;
3. Inadequate policies on cotton growing.



In spite of all the obstacles, however, Thuan Hai has been striving to become a major cotton growing region. Equipment, materials and seeds are supplied by the provincial Cotton Company with a view to expanding the cotton acreage, while the Agronomical Centre for Southern Trung Bo trains technicians and conducts experiments in crossbreeding (using 150 varieties of seeds) with the aim of creating species specially adapted to local conditions. Seeds will be supplied to cotton-growing State farms: Thanh Son, Quan The and "April 16". Besides these, cotton-growing co-operatives have been set up, mainly in the districts of Ninh Son and Bac Binh. The Phuoc Son co-operative has amassed a wealth of experience in this field over the last few years. New manpower has come from Thai Binh province in the north, with which the State farms have entered into "sworn brotherhood".

The Soviet Union has provided specialists and equipment to help with soil improvement, disease and pest prevention, and crossbreeding, in preparation for the setting up of a cotton-growing area covering 120,000 hectares and stretching from Gia Lai--Kon Tum through Phu Khanh to Thuan Hai.

At the Thanh Son State farm, besides providing guidance on planting and caring for cotton plants, Soviet experts have actively participated in an experimental field which has yielded encouraging results: one ton of cotton per hectare per crop. It is quite clear that Thuan Hai is set to become the centre of the country's cotton-growing industry.

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## HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

### PHA LAI THERMOELECTRIC PLANT NEARING COMPLETION

Hanoi TO QUOC in Vietnamese No 1, Jan 84 pp 15-17

[Article by Mai May: "Pha Lai: Surprising and Not Surprising"]

[Text] Before visiting a construction site we usually imagine how it differs from the other construction sites of the same kind we have visited, examined, and worshiped. The desire to seek out the different and strange is normal, for in a country undergoing industrialization, such as ours, countless construction sites have sprung up.

After nearly a decade, since the fourth-phase expansion of the Uong Bi thermoelectric plant, our country has just gained a notable additional source of electricity -- 110,000 kilowatts. That is only counting a single generator -- equal to the capacity of a plant that was once called the "big brother of the electricity industry." I have visited many parts of the homeland and have seen with my own eyes practically all of the "large scale" projects. I still felt an overwhelming happiness when I visited Pha Lai. Recently Hanoi has been supplied with electricity more regularly and seldom do people have to light kerosene lanterns because, it is said, Pha Lai electricity "has come on line." That made my visit even more exciting and anxious. But the waiting and anxiety caused me to feel "hopeless" when the long-distance bus screeched to a halt at the Luc Dau ferry crossing and I could see the thermoelectric site, especially its gigantic, tall smokestack. After the black smoke spurted from the smokestack it seemed too heavy to scatter and arched across the horizon like a rust-colored rainbow. Ash was flying around every where.

I asked myself, "Why is that so?" Or had I misunderstood? Hadn't people said that Pha Lai had static electricity equipment to filter coal ash, that it emitted very little smoke and its smoke was as white as cotton? It took me less than 15 minutes to cross the river by ferry and walk to the plant -- a distance of about a kilometer. I looked up at the high, immense blue sky. As if there had been a miracle, the rust-colored rainbow had disappeared! Now from the top of that very tall smokestack there was coming out only light, white smoke like that of a straw kitchen fire. It floated along lightly and then mixed in with a white cloud. I expressed my surprise to Nguyen Thanh Lam, M.A., the plant's chief engineer. It turned out that the power plant, which the construction people had just turned over to the operators, was being operated on a trial basis so that it could be adjusted.



you've seen today?" He waved his hand toward the whole project. "Even I, a person who participated in everything from pouring the first batch of concrete to the installation of the last steel girder, didn't suspect that we could build such a bridge!"

Pulling me to the surface of the bridge, he confided, "Some people think that it was possible to build the bridge only because of adequate contracting out and bonus systems. Other people say that it was due to skilled political-ideological work. Many 'reasons' have been set forth to explain the erection of the bridge. Now that you've asked, I'll also express an opinion: it was a victory of the three revolutions, in which the scientific-technical revolution plays the key role, and of the results of all-round Vietnamese-Soviet cooperation. Is that not so? The Soviet technicians often modestly say, "There are 80 of us and 7,000 of you, so we could not do everything ourselves." So you can begin with the ordinary workers over there, working around us. Do you know who the workers are and who the intellectuals are?"

He amusingly asked me that question and pointed to a group of workers who were pouring concrete on the surface of the bridge. I saw a group of workers, dressed in clothing of the same color, working diligently beside a revolving concrete mixing machine. I tried to find out which of the workmen in the "spearhead" units were intellectuals and which were workers. Large cranes which reached to the second level but looked like box matches were lifting sheets of steel at the signal of a whistle. On the high, unstable bridge superstructure a group of welders were working, their welding rods giving off sparks. I shook my head, which caused Chat to laugh aloud. "That's right! Here the intellectuals are not separate -- they are technicians. We have about 300 engineers and an M.S. in welding technology. Do you see the comrade sitting behind the welders? He is the one with the M.S. in welding technology and is inspecting quality. We have welded more than 30 kilometers of seams, which in a straight line would nearly extend from Hanoi to Son Tay. They have been inspected by supersonic sound and X-rays. If that is a combined project made up of many items the ranks of the "Thang Long intellectuals" include tens of specialties: bridge-building, road-building, water-borne transportation, road transportation, marine engines, ship hulls, transportation economics, construction economics, architecture, geology, manufacturing machinery, motive power machinery, automation, chemistry, construction materials, etc. They were trained in our country and in such countries as the Soviet Union, Rumania, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, China, Korea, etc. The corps of intellectuals has become a reliable force which occupy the key technical positions. Eighty percent of the directors, deputy directors, supervisors, and deputy supervisors are people who have recently been promoted. I'm telling you that so that you can understand that the intellectual forces at the Thang Long bridge construction site largely matured in the course of actual work. The 300 people there belong to three generations: the young generation which has just left school and is serving in the "spearhead" units under the supervision of engineers who "matured" and were tested in the period of ensuring communications and transportation during the years of opposition to the war of destruction waged by the U.S. bandits. As for the "oldsters" who fought the French, such as myself ...." His laughter shook the greying hair of a person over 50, which caused me to understand that he was still persistently competing with the young generation.

I arrived at the Materials Corporation while the Ministry of Communications-Transportation was conducting a labor safety inspection. Engineer Ha Thi Bao modestly handed me a report on regulations regarding the maintenance of prestressed steel, then plunged into the work at hand. The engineers of that corporation, as they happily observed, were "all-round engineers." They were workers but were also people who did scientific-technical work. Bao had made a large number of suggestions which had saved tens of thousands of dong for the state. Its "Maintenance of Prestressed Steel" project was only one example. "This is the first time in Vietnam that prestressed steel in large 250-kilogram rolls has been stored by scientific methods on such very large scale." (Observation of the Scientific Council). In the past it took 40 workers a day to maintain a 250-kilogram roll, but now, by scientific methods, Bao had increased the rate to five workers being able to handle six to eight rolls a day. Productivity had increased 100-fold and the work was less dangerous and arduous.

When asked about that, Miss Bao modestly said, "I am an engineer who has been well-trained. When I saw workers using up one welding rod after another I really felt sympathy for them. I recommended to the corporation and to Hanoi Polytechnic College that they accept that research topic. With the assistance of the collective, and a little hard work on my part, we succeeded. There was no genius to it!"

Bao answered me with pride in her skill and with the happiness of having just gotten married. Bao and her husband are still on their "honeymoon," but he only visits her on the southern bank once a week, on Saturday afternoon, because the bridge has not yet been completed! The entire construction site, however, is striving to attain the objective of "Opening the nonmotorized lanes on the lower level before Lunar New Year's." After that day her husband will be able to visit her regularly. The bridge will bring together the happiness of many other such couples.

Saying goodbye to the Thang Long bridge, I pedaled my bicycle back along the Red River Diike. The electric lights at the construction site had been turned on and the site was busily at work. The welding rods sent off sparks, which fell like shooting stars into the swiftly flowing Red River.

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## HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

### REPORTER VISITS THANG LONG BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION SITE

Hanoi TO QUOC in Vietnamese No 1, Jan 84 pp 17-21

[Article by Bui Xuan Vinh: "A Bright Spot at the Beginning of Spring"]

[Excerpts] I visited the Thang Long bridge during the busy days at the end of the year. The Red River had entered the "quiet" season, but the alluvium was still very dark red, a promising color. On the two banks of the river the green young corn glistened in the golden light. Some boats were pulling barges full of cement upstream in the direction of the bridge. The sound of their motors resounded on the surface of the immense river and imbued the banks with a difficult-to-describe happiness.

The Thang Long bridge was directly ahead of me. Fifteen steel spans resting on 14 piers connected the two banks of the river. The main part of the bridge was 1,688 meters long. The total distance between the two abutments, which connected with three types of roadbeds (railroad, road, and nonmotorized vehicles), was 11 kilometers. It is the largest, most modern two-level bridge in Vietnam. I parked my bicycle under a brass plaque on the southern abutment on which there were engraved the words "Thang Long Bridge -- Friendship Bridge" and could not avoid being moved! I looked up at the gigantic, imposing bridge and was dazzled by that great work. Directly above my head was the first level, 17 meters wide, which supported two wide-gauge railroad lines and two nonmotorized roads (which could be used by 10-ton trucks). The upper level is 20 meters wide, sufficient for four motor vehicle lanes and two sidewalks. The first and second levels are 14 meters apart, the height of a four-story building. The 230,000 cubic meters of concrete, 100,000 meters of pipe piles, 53,000 tons of steel girders that had been placed into position created that strong, supple bridge in the shape of a "flying dragon" on the Red River, which the Vietnamese have dreamed of conquering for thousands of years.

I followed the chief engineer to the surface of the bridge and could not avoid being preoccupied with thoughts. Much had been said about the "muscle labor" there, but I went to seek out the "grey matter" in the midst of that vast site. What could I write about the countless number of people who had worked there for 10 years in a small article?

Knowing that I was perplexed, Nguyen Canh Chat -- the chief engineer and the person who had worked longest at Thang Long (one of 10 members of the board of directors at the beginning) -- intimately said, "Are you surprised about what

After Lam told me that during the trial operation period it didn't matter whether the smoke was white or black, I went to the place where the static electricity ash filtering equipment was installed. It was in itself a large shop in which there had been installed electrodes to draw ions from the smoke particles. The ash particles that adhered to the electrodes were sent to an ash removal pumping station, from which the ashes and cinders were pumped outside. Only after the smoke had been carefully filtered and no longer carried ash was it "allowed" to enter the fan compartment and escape up the smokestack to the sky. The smokestack is 200 meters high and I could see it from 10 kilometers away. It is truly a construction project without peer in our country, if we remember that the smokestacks of the Uong Bi and Ninh Binh thermoelectric plants are under 100 meters. It was necessary to dig six meters into the ground to lay a foundation with a diameter of 36 meters, which decreased to 10 meters at the top. It was built of reinforced concrete from the surface up. Inside the concrete there is a steel lining weighing 850 tons which is made up of many welded sections and had to be installed from the top down. Construction Corporation 18 assigned all of Enterprise 104 (with 1,000 workers) to the task of constructing the foundation. To form the reinforced concrete shell it was necessary to bring in Enterprise 904 (which specializes in making concrete forms) from Ha Nam Ninh. Machinery Installation Enterprise No 1 (Hanoi), headed by engineer Nguyen Huyen Chiec, was responsible for installing the steel lining. In general, to build the principal projects at Pha Lai it was necessary to coordinate many units, not only to construct the smokestack.

Although I had been briefed in advance, when I arrived there I was still impressed with how large and complicated it was! The area within the fences is more than two square kilometers in extent. Every year Pha Lai uses 1.6 million tons of coal, while the present yearly output of the Quang Ninh mining area is only about 6 to 7 million tons. Coal is sent there from the mines by barge and train. At the site there will be a very modern railroad car tipping system that can automatically tip a railroad car so that its coal spills onto a conveyor belt. But that is still in the planning stage. The railroad system (being built by the Ministry of Communications-Transportation) has not been completed. The conveyor belt system also has not been completed, so trucks have to be used to transport coal from the river port to the transshipment depot (which, of course, is troublesome and costly). The water circulation drainage canal (being built by the Ministry of Water Conservancy) has not been completed. Pha Lai needs so much water for cooling and for generating steam that the Luc Dau River, into which six rivers converge, can't provide enough. It was necessary to dig a ditch to bring in more water from the Red River. The Ministry of Water Conservancy's sending troops to dig a canal and the Ministry of Communications-Transportation's sending troops to build a railroad were things that were not done for even the Hoa Binh hydroelectric plant, the "project of the century"! In addition to Construction Corporation 18 -- with chief responsibility for construction -- and Machinery Installation Enterprise Combine 69 -- with chief responsibility for installation -- Military Region 3 sent a division (the 319th). The coal depot (the largest), the project's experimental laboratory (the most attractive), and the combined support zone, which were the responsibility of the 29th Regiment led by engineer Lt. Col. Nguyen Van Hanh, have been praised many times by the Soviet technicians and the unified command committee. The circulation pumping station, which at a depth



of 17 meters is the deepest installation at Pha Lai, was the responsibility of Tran Ngoc Luu's 11th Regiment. Because he proposed a bold method to overcome the problem of mud and soil slipping into the unfinished excavation of the pumping station and to get the pipeline back on schedule, engineer Capt. Tran Ngoc Luu was promoted to the rank of Major.

Coordinating work at a project involving tens of thousands of people and hundreds of machines was an art on the part of the Unified Command Committee, in which engineer Nguyen Ton -- the General Director -- and engineers Hung and Hoang -- deputy general directors -- of Construction Corporation 18, the unit assigned the "main B" mission, played a role.

"If it had been somewhere else, I don't know" Engineer Nguyen Ton frankly expressed his feelings and thoughts, "But our country lacking electricity is like a body lacking blood. On many nights the cities must light kerosene lanterns, and have placed their hopes in Pha Lai. We are standing in the fore at Pha Lai, so of course we cannot slacken in our work!"

A considerable number of foreign journalists have called Ton, Hung, and Hoang the three main engineers in charge of constructing the project, even though they are still young.

At Pha Lai only once, when I first arrived, did I have to present identification papers, in accordance with regulations, and enter the construction site by the main gate. At that time, after walking along a smooth, wide concrete sidewalk and viewing the construction site -- with its platforms and rows of buildings receiving the finishing touches, I felt as if the thermoelectric project had been completed. But when I "attacked from the rear" and passed through a secondary gate I was immediately confronted with the confusion of machinery, equipment, construction scaffolding, and wet, freshly mixed concrete being brought in and poured into the foundation trenches. Without having to climb to the top of the smokestack, but only from the 40 to 50 meters elevation of the main building, I could clearly see everything, including the three ash removal pipelines and a pipeline which brought back water from the Ke Lang slag heap, about three kilometers from the factory. Doi Ta, the only remaining hill (after the entire fown of Pha Lai and part of Phao Son Village were moved in order to detonate the historic 75 tons of explosives, scrape off 7 million cubic meters earth and rock, and create the site's surface area), appeared so tiny. I began to understand the advanced construction methods at Pha Lai: a high degree of mechanization combined with compartmentalization and large-scale cooperation. Nguyen Xuan Hap, one of the 10 skilled engineers sent by the Ministry, has twice been awarded "Creative Labor" certificates and medals, was appointed head of the "main B" technical office, and is very well informed. Pointing to the recently completed foundation of the boiler of turbine No 2 and its nearly completed framework, he said, "It took 3 years and 5 months, after construction began, to bring turbine No 1 into production. That was fast, and many people found it surprising. But it will not be surprising when the construction site promises the state that it will construct and install turbine No 2 within 12 months."

"Why?"

"The advanced construction methods at Pha Lai have just been unanimously recognized by the all-sector scientific conference. The present construction rate is no longer that of the past, but is much faster. In the new period, we will urgently install the turbine No 2 machinery, pour the boiler foundation, erect the frameworks for turbines 3 and 4, etc.

Because it had a flat tire, that day it was pitch dark when the long-range passenger bus returned to Hanoi. I was not surprised when I saw that there were no lights on my street. Just as Nguyen Xuan Hap -- whose family lived in Hanoi not far from my house -- said, "A turbine is not yet a plant. A turbine, even as big as that at Pha Lai, can only lower the present 'energy fever' a little."

I sometimes suddenly think about the coal ash filtering equipment at Pha Lai still undergoing adjustment, or the people who are enduring many hardships and sacrifices, and are once again greeting spring by the Luc Dau River, people who are working on a new turbine to create a stronger source of electricity and a more reliable, more brilliant source of lighting for Hanoi and our entire nation.

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## LIGHT INDUSTRY

### BRIEFS

STATE-RUN TEXTILE INDUSTRY--The vietnamese textile industry now has 1,339 spinning machines, 10,873 weaving machines of different categories and a total workforce of 62,000 including weavers, spinners, technicians and managerial cadres. So far, it is only working at 50% capacity. Technicians, engineers and other scientific workers account for 5-10% of the total personnel. At one time the textile industry was relatively healthy. In the north, the textile mills were working at 75-80% capacity and average productivity was more than 30 metres per worker per shift. However, in recent years, due to the war and also a deterioration at managerial level, production has steadily decreased in both quantity and quality. The difficulties have been compounded by frequent shortages of electricity, raw materials, equipment and spare parts. The weaving and spinning machines are working at 64% capacity and at times the figure falls as low as 40%. In an effort to revive the industry, three new factories are being built at Nha Trang (central Vietnam), Hanoi and Vinh (the capital of Nghe Tinh province), with the co-operation of foreign countries. The factories in Nha Trang and Hanoi will soon be fully operational. In 1982 the textile industry produced 220 million metres of cloth and silk, more than 40 million metres up on the 1981 figure. Yarn production stood at 35,366 tonnes. Although still falling short of the targets, this figure represents an increase of 5,000-6,000 tonnes of yarn on previous years. For some time now an upward trend has been observed in this industry. The potential remains very high. With enough materials for the machines to reach 80% capacity, the target of 380 million metres of textile by 1985 is well within reach and the output per capita of the population will be much higher than the present less than two metres. [By Nguyen Ba Suu] [Hanoi VIETNAM PICTORIAL No 298, Oct 83 p 21]

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## TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

### TRANSPORT SECTOR GIVES PRIORITY TO GRAIN SHIPMENTS

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Feb 84 p 1

[VNA News Release: "The Communications-Transportation Sector Focuses Efforts on Shipping Grain to the Municipalities, Industrial Centers and Border Areas"]

[Text] The communications-transportation sector and the grain sector are focusing their efforts on shipping a large quantity of grain for supply to the municipalities, industrial centers and border areas in order to insure a stable supply of grain as required under ration standards to cadres, manual workers and laboring people and help to stabilize grain prices in the areas mentioned above.

The sector has mobilized nearly 40,000 tons of ocean transport capacity to participate in the transportation of grain from the southern provinces to the port of Haiphong. In early February, the ship Dong Nai transported more than 4,000 tons of rice from Ho Chi Minh City to the port of Haiphong where it was unloaded. The port provided equipment and stevedore forces on a priority basis, overcame the problems posed by the heavy rains in the unloading of grain, coordinated with maritime vessels and the ministry and promptly transported the rice mentioned above to the municipalities and industrial centers. The ocean shipping sector has been trying during February to transport from 40,000 to 45,000 tons of grain from the southern provinces to the port of Haiphong.

The railroad sector has put together special trains to transport grain from the south to the north. In February, the sector is endeavoring to transport from 200 to 300 tons of grain per day along the south-north line.

In coordination with the grain sector, the communications-transportation sector has sent many responsible cadres to the places where grain shipments originate and to terminals to personally command this concerted transportation campaign. As a result, progress has been made in the mobilization, collection and shipment of grain; the rate at which grain is being supplied to the various areas is gradually increasing. Between now and the end of February, the quantity of grain being shipped, especially along the south-north line, will increase, thus meeting the grain needs of key consumers.

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